

THE TIMES

Tomorrow

Easy glider... Ronald Faux looks at the new emphasis on safety in hang-gliding.
On the road... A journey that rediscovers the splendours of old Syria. With a backpack... How to make light work of a long walk.



Wheeling... The second part of the competition with a Ford Sierra XR4i as first prize. Dealing... The writer in Stalin's pocket: the extraordinary story of Soviet apologist Alexei Tolstoy. Revealing... The costs of differential mortgages, in which interest charges are higher for bigger borrowers.

Social work to open its records

People receiving help from the social services are to be given the right to see their case records, under guidance issued by the Department of Health and Social Security in a move which overturns decades of social work practice. Page 3

Spain by-passes Maltese tactics

Spain is going ahead with invitations to the foreign ministers of the 35 nations at the European Security Review Conference to meet in Madrid next month, despite Malta's obstructionist tactics. Page 4

Maxwell rebuff

Three institutional shareholders of the John Waddington games manufacturer have withdrawn their acceptances to the takeover offer from Mr Robert Maxwell's BPCC shortly before he was expected to announce he had won control. Page 13

Walesa chaired

Lech Walesa was carried on the shoulders of chanting supporters after a stormy meeting at the Gdańsk shipyard called by the government to explain its policies. Minister jeered, page 5

Murder charge

Two leaders of the Ulster Defence Association were arrested as a man was accused of murdering Mrs Maire Drumm, of Provisional Sinn Fein, in hospital, seven years ago. Page 2

Beirut blasts

A French soldier was killed and eight others injured in an explosion in Beirut. Another blast at the Air France office in Beirut killed three Lebanese. Page 4

Trudeau in peril

Mr Pierre Trudeau, the Canadian Prime Minister, is facing a clamour from his Liberal Party backbenchers for his resignation. Page 5

Scientific talks

The meetings of the British Association for the Advancement of Science are reported on page 2.

Football trio

England want to invite a leading world football country to take part in a three-cornered tournament with England to replace the Home Championship, which is being discontinued. Page 17

British gold

Adrian Moorhouse, aged 19, won Britain's first gold medal in the European swimming championships at Rome in the 200 metres breaststroke. Page 16

Leaders page 9

Letters: On the Liberals, from Sir M Meadowcroft, MP, and Lord Beaumont of Whitley, university research from Professor J M Thomas, FRS. Leading articles: Mitterrand and Chad; Prisoners in foreign jails; BA goes to law. Features, pages 6-8

Making sense of the crime figures; Pakistan's simmering province; images to impress the outer spectrum; the condition of American blacks. Friday page: what children really think of their holidays. Obituary, page 10. Mr J Cleveland Bellie.

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Two pits closed in swift action to test militants

By Paul Routledge, Labour Editor

The National Coal Board yesterday issued its long-expected challenge to miners' leaders by announcing the immediate closure of two pits in militant coalfields regarded as test cases in the battle over uneconomic collieries.

In the last days of Sir Norman Siddall's chairmanship of the board the industry's senior management has dismissed appeals against the shutdown of Cardowan pit near Glasgow and Brynlliw mine near Swansea, employing a total of 1,400 men.

Miners at Cardowan are holding a secret ballot to decide whether they will continue their opposition to the closure. Mr Alec Hogg, delegate of the National Union of Mineworkers there, said that if the men voted for industrial action the colliery could be occupied.

In South Wales, the NUM area executive meets today to discuss the union's next step following the "complete shock" registered locally by the closure decision.

However, the board is moving swiftly to head off a possible confrontation by ceasing coal production at Cardowan today and putting the mine on a salvage basis from Monday.

Priority is being given to the transfer of men to other Scottish pits. In the absence of Mr Arthur Scargill, president of the NUM, who is in Moscow on union business, a spokesman at union headquarters in Sheffield accused the board of "losing all sense of reason".

It was becoming "brutally clear" that the board was

operating to a government dictate to hit miners' jobs as hard as possible, he said.

"As with all bullies, they will only stop when the membership hits back," he added. The opportunity for the NUM to do so will come on September 15, when the national executive meets to decide whether the time is "appropriate" to hold a secret pithead ballot in the hope of securing a 45 per cent majority for strike action.

The initial response of union leaders yesterday, however, was cautious and pointed away from an early appeal for industrial action.

Mr Michael McGahey,

president of the Scottish miners, said that he would be seeking national talks to defend Cardowan.

Its closure would be top of the agenda at next month's executive meeting.

By then the pit is likely to be shut. Of the original workforce of 1,090, about 70 have been transferred and another 30 have volunteered for redundancy.

The board says that about 150 men will be kept in for salvage work and the rest will be offered jobs in the Fife Coalfield.

Mr Albert Wheeler, director of the Scottish area, said: "We

now want to get these men into our more productive collieries so they can make a contribution to the area's drive for higher productivity and to improve the profitability of our pits. Older men who have given a lifetime of service to the industry can take advantage of our voluntary redundancy scheme."

A similar battle over the fate of Kinnel colliery in Scotland ended in defeat for the union over the Christmas holiday

period, and the board's main headache may be in South Wales.

Brynlliw, which employs about 800 men, must close even though it has substantial reserves because it is losing £52 on every tonne brought out of the pit, the board argues. In 1983-84 it is projected to lose £6.5m and its market at an electricity generating station nearby, also scheduled to close, has collapsed.

Leaders of the South Wales miners meet today to decide whether to call for industrial action.

Mr Don Hayward, union

financial secretary of the area, argued last night that the case for Brynlliw was "cast iron". It had between ten and 15 years of coal reserves "and if they close Brynlliw, they can threaten any colliery in the British coalfield", he claimed.

In a farewell message to the industry, Sir Norman said last night that progress was being made in the fight to become more efficient. But he insisted that the board must move out of "high cost mining capacity" to avoid further losses.

"Last year 12 per cent of output lost £275m—almost three quarters of the £374 deficit grant paid by the Government. That is a drain on the rest of the industry. It has to be remedied with as little hardship as possible to the people involved", he said.

His place will be taken by Mr Ian MacGregor, chairman of the British Steel Corporation, next Thursday. He is expected to take a strong line with the unions.

Mitterrand ready to fight Chad rebels

From Diana Geddes, Paris

France is ready to fight the Libyan-backed rebels in Chad if they launch a new offensive against President Hissene Habré's forces. President Mitterrand stated yesterday.

While insisting that France wants a negotiated settlement, he confirmed his total opposition to any settlement involving the partition of Chad. However, he left deliberately unclear what France's response would be to any attempt by President Habré to recapture the key town of Faya-Largeau in the Libyan-occupied northern half of the country.

Earlier this week, the Chadian Government announced that it would ask France for military help when it was ready to launch its counter-offensive against Faya-Largeau.

Mitterrand insisted yesterday that the French troops "cannot be considered as an auxiliary force subject to a strategy in whose determination they have no part".

"We must now harmonize our actions. Since France's presence is considered necessary, it must be understood that she will only go where she wishes in the joint interests that she is trying to serve," The President added.

M Charles Hernu, the French Defence Minister, flew to Ndjamenia at the President's request yesterday, officially "in order to inspect the French troops." However, it is expected that he will also hold talks with

Continued on back page, col 7

Cup yacht designer may sue

From David Miller

Newport, Rhode Island

Mr Ben Lexcen, designer of the controversial Royal Perth Yacht Club challenger for the America's Cup, Australia II, is considering legal action against the New York Yacht Club, defenders of the trophy.

In the latest hostilities caused by the New York Yacht Club's repeated attempts to discredit the Australian boat, Mr Warren Jones, executive director for the Australia II syndicate, yesterday revealed that the New York club's agents tried to persuade a Dutch boatyard official to sign an affidavit swearing incorrectly that Australia II was not designed by Mr Lexcen.

At the same time Mr Jones released a copy of a letter from the New York club dated June 11, 1982, signed by the secretary of the America's Cup Committee, in which the Australia II syndicate was cleared to use the Netherlands Ship Model Basin tank testing facilities.

Mr Jones revealed he had been notified by letter by Dr Peter van Oossanen that on Wednesday, Mr Richard Latham, a member of the New York club committee, and Mr Will Valentini, a close relative of the designer for the US Liberty/Freedom syndicate, gave him an affidavit containing incorrect statements attempting to suggest that Mr Lexcen was not solely responsible for the design of Australia II.

Mr van Oossanen said the charges contained in the affidavit were untrue and he refused to sign it. He said he had previously informed the New York Club that Mr Lexcen was the sole designer.

Mr Jones said he was angered by the New York club's latest attempt to avoid racing Australia II by casting doubt on the Australian yacht's right to compete.

Australia II contests the elimination final in a best of seven races with the Royal Burmese challenger, Victory 83, starting on Sunday.

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Legal moves, page 18



Ian Botham hitting a six on his way to his first century for England in 22 innings. Report page 16. (Photograph: Ian Stewart).

Union poll reveals massive support for secret ballots

By David Felton, Labour Correspondent

The Government's assertions that its proposed trade union law reforms have the backing of rank and file union members received significant support yesterday from an internal union poll which showed that an overwhelming number of members supported the introduction of secret ballots for strike votes and the election of

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The survey of members of the TUC-affiliated Inland Revenue Staff Federation (IRSF) has a tradition of being a moderate union, but during the 1981 civil service strike it was at the forefront of the industrial action and was able to claim stronger membership support for the pay campaign than most of the eight other unions involved.

Union leaders argued last night that the poll should not be interpreted as complete membership support for the Tebbit proposals because it covered a wide range of issues, including calls for greater industrial democracy, which were ignored by the White Paper last month.

Mr Tebbit intends to introduce a Bill during the next parliamentary session covering compulsory secret ballots. It is likely that next month's Congress will authorize talks with the minister on his proposals, but only on the basis of continued opposition to the

Mr Anthony Christopher, general secretary of the IRSF, who is a member of the TUC general council, said last night that "in very simple sense"

the study could be taken as backing for the Government's plans and the legislation proposed "displayed an abysmal ignorance of the way unions are

run".

He announced that the IRSF executive would be taking immediate action to implement recommendations of the poll although the final decision will rest with a special union conference in December. If there is conference support, the principle of pre-strike secret ballots will be adopted straight away.

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Mr Murray said the survey showed "the capacity of unions to take account of the interests and concerns of their own particular membership". The Tebbit approach, which aimed to impose uniformity, was likely to be counter-productive, he said.

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Task force sails into dispute

The Royal Navy will be left with only eight frigates and destroyers to guard Britain's approaches to the North Atlantic when a task force leaves for New Zealand next week, it was claimed last night.

The claim, in a Press Association report, was queried however, by senior naval sources.

The aircraft carrier Invincible will lead a destroyer, five frigates and five supply vessels on a deployment which will last until next spring.

The report quotes "authoritative sources" as describing their absence as a "calculated risk". It adds that 12 more warships are committed to Falklands Islands duties, three in the Caribbean and one is in the Gulf.

Official sources added last night that the deployment had been authorized only after consultation with Nato's Supreme Allied Commander Atlantic in Norfolk, Virginia.

Flagpole tied up in red tape

Villagers in Sudbry, Co Durham, have been given permission to put a flagpole on their village green to celebrate the wedding of the Prince and Princess of Wales - more than 10 years late.

The parish, near Darlington, blames bureaucracy for the delay. The flagpole needed special authority because it is to be put up in a conservation area. Darlington Borough Council still has to give planning approval for the scheme but the flagpole may be up next year.

Cable TV firm plans arts show

A daily four-hour television arts programme is being compiled for cable television operators by British Cable Pro grammes, which expects to inject £1m a year in fee payments into British music and drama.

The Government has invited applications for 12 pilot multi-channel cable television franchises.

Thatcher to join world phone-in

Mrs Margaret Thatcher will become the first national leader to take part in a world-wide radio phone-in this autumn when she answers questions for 50 minutes from listeners to the BBC World Service.

BRITISH ASSOCIATION



Spending on research up despite recession

Industry has increased its expenditure on research and development during the past five years, in spite of the economic recession, according to a survey of research and development in Britain.

The finding that companies have not cut back on research in response to hard times is a surprising contrast both to their behaviour during the first half of the 1970s when research and development in industry fell by 11 per cent, and to recent talk of declining industrial research.

The survey was carried out by the Technical Change Centre (TCC) in London for the British Association.

"The mood of pessimism about industrial research and development has been excessed", Mr Ted Butler and Sir Bruce Williams of the TCC reported last night when they presented the first results of their science audit. Their figures are more recent than the official statistics on research and development which, they said, were inadequate and published very late.

The TCC's main source of information on research in industry was the Department of Trade and Industry, which made available preliminary results of its 1981 survey on the subject. Those have not been published by the Government because the results have not yet been analysed.

Industry spent 63.5 per cent more on research and development in 1981 than in 1978, the year of the last published official survey. In that time research costs are estimated to have risen by 55 per cent, leaving a real increase in spending of about 5 per cent.

The TCC team is also investigating university research and development where it has found that "the amount of information about research expenditure is pathetically small and late in its publication".

Strike at Vauxhall's Ellesmere Port plant halts production

A strike by 1,800 assembly workers at Vauxhall's Ellesmere Port car factory in Mersey side brought production to standstill yesterday.

The men are believed to have taken their action after instructions from Coventry, where negotiators from the Transport and General Workers' Union are discussing the company's annual pay claim, with the Advisory Conciliation and Arbitration Service (Acas).

All car assembly work at the factory was brought to a halt, although the remainder of the 5,150 employees at the factory remained at their posts.

The men on strike are demanding a £25 wage increase across the board, a reduction in working hours, increased overtime payments and improved sickness and holiday benefit.

The Ellesmere Port factory normally produces 38 vehicles an hour: 20 Astra cars, ten Astra vans and eight Chevettes.

A week-long strike by 1,300 boilermakers at Cammell Laird shipbuilders in Birkenhead Merseyside, ended yesterday.

Dismissed journalists wait on talks

By Ronald Faxx

Three hundred journalists in Manchester dismissed by Express Newspapers over a Christmas working disagreement were last night awaiting the outcome of negotiations in London between the management and officials of the National Union of Journalists (NUJ).

The journalists work on the *Daily Star*, the northern editions of the *Daily Express* and the *Scottish Sunday Express*. They had refused to leave a mandatory union meeting on Wednesday at which they narrowly rejected a management offer to "buy out" their right not to work on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day. About half the members were at the meeting when they learnt that all journalists working for Express Newspapers in Manchester had been dismissed.

The union said last night that it had accepted part of a pay deal amounting to about 5 per cent but refused to give up the right not to work on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day for a £250 lump sum.

Wary union support for youth scheme

By David Feltos, Labour Correspondent

The Government is assured of continued trade union support for the controversial £1,000m Youth Training Scheme (YTS) after the publication today of a TUC guide which urges cooperation.

TUC commitment to the scheme will be questioned at the annual congress in Blackpool early next month, but unions are expected to give their support, with some qualifications, and will continue to press for improvements.

The guidelines were seen by an opponent of the YTS as an attempt to undermine opposition at Blackpool, but most of the attention during the training debate will be focussed on ways of ensuring that youngsters on the scheme receive the highest possible allowance and join unions.

The Manpower Service Commission has promised places on the scheme by Christmas to all unemployed school leavers aged 16. Each trainee will receive a £25 a week allowance for the year's vocational training.

Launching the guidelines, Mr Len Murray, general secretary of the TUC, said the scheme

would help young people towards a career, but some employers might try to exploit it financially and others might not have the necessary training expertise.

A meeting of leaders of 14 unions which have either motions or amendments on YTS on the Blackpool agenda has failed to reach an all-embracing motion for the Congress, so delegates will have to choose between one motion critical of the principle of the scheme and a second supporting it with qualifications.

The National Graphical Association wants the TUC to reconsider its support for the scheme because it claims it is being used by the Government to create "a pool of cheap labour". The alternative motion, sponsored chiefly by teachers' organisations, calls for stronger union participation and local monitoring of schemes.

Mr Norman Tebbit, Secretary of State for Employment, has resisted union pressure to increase the weekly allowance to £26.75 in line with an MSC recommendation.

Leading article, page 5

By a Staff Reporter

British Airways' High Court application for a ruling on British Midland Airways' plan to operate a shuttle service between Heathrow and Belfast is expected to be heard today.

BA hopes to prevent its independent rival from competing on the route, after the Civil Aviation Authority's decision to grant British Midland a licence.

If the application succeeds the hearing is expected to be held in October, probably in an open court. The case will challenge the CAA's interpretation of the Civil Aviation Act, 1980, in granting British Midland a licence.

Behind the legal move lies the independent airline's recent success in capturing a third of the shuttle traffic to Scotland from BA.

Mr Meacher, who has campaigned against low pay was speaking at a London meeting organized by the Low Pay Unit, the Fabian Society and the National Union of Public Employees, which is balloting members with an executive resolution to support the motion.

He said the only solution to low pay was a national minimum wage. Well before the next election the Labour Party and

Leading article, page 5

THE PITT AND THE PENDULUM



COMING SOON - THE ULTIMATE IN HORROR! Peter Brooks

Court to hear BA appeal for shuttle ruling

Meacher puts case for minimum wage

By Our Parliamentary Staff

Mr Michael Meacher yesterday abandoned his consultancy role in Labour's deputy leadership contest and said his rival, Mr Roy Hattersley, had resurrected a 10-year-old idea by advocating an index of poverty.

He said: "There is nothing wrong with the idea. The problem is mobilizing the political support to do something about it."

Meanwhile Labour supporters are being urged by Mr Wedgwood Benn to take an interest in "the many Socialist groups that have appeared on the scene".

Mr Benn writes in the Labour magazine, *New Socialist*: "Though the direct affiliation to the Labour Party of such groups or sects would enlarge our own perception and contribute directly to our policy-making, we have to accept that even if they remain autonomous they may have many common interests with us."

At the same time, Mr McMichael, aged 35, who stood for the Ulster Loyalist Democratic Party in the Belfast South by-election last year, went with police from his home in Belfast.

At Belfast Magistrates Court, Mr Smith, from the Crumlin Road area, was accused of the murder of Mrs Drumm. He faces 11 other terrorist charges, including possession of a gun and ammunition but those were not put to him at the preliminary hearing.

When charged Mr Smith, who was 16 at the time of the murder, had nothing to say.

After a lawyer for the defence conceded there was a prima facie case to answer he was sent for trial to Belfast Crown Court.

Spotlight on leopards

Defence policy 'based on myth of Soviet threat'

Reports by Pearce Wright, Clive Cookson and Lucy Hodges

Britain's nuclear defence policy is based on a series of myths and false perceptions, according to evidence presented to the BA meeting yesterday by an expert in peace and conflict research.

The "Soviet threat" has become an important justification for the British nuclear deterrent. Yet, according to Dr Paul Smoker, of Lancaster University, independent studies of Soviet and Western interventions in wars and conflicts since the Second World War show "that if the Soviet threat is cause for concern then the Western threat is at least ten times more serious".

One study showed that the Western countries intervened in 64 wars between 1945 and 1976, while the Soviet Union and its allies took part in six. (Only direct military intervention was counted, not arms sales, technical or political assistance or technology transfer.)

A different analysis cited by Dr Smoker looked at foreign intervention in 641 post-war conflicts (defined more broadly this time to include coups and large civil disturbances as well as wars). Western nations intervened on 243 occasions and the Communist countries, including North Vietnam, Cuba, China and the Warsaw Pact nations, only on 20.

"Of course it can be argued that the Soviet threat manifests itself in other ways such as arms sales, training of military personnel and spying, and there is probably some truth in this assertion," Dr Smoker said.

"It is almost certainly the case that similar activities by Western nations also constitute a component of the Western threat and that comparative studies of the relative use of such procedures would not necessarily find the Soviet threat to be greater."

Dr Smoker, who is at the Richardson Institute for Conflict and Peace Research at Lancaster, challenged the related assumption that the nuclear deterrent is responsible for the very low level of warfare in Europe and the absence of a great power war.

How did the Earth obtain its iron-rich core? The traditional view is that at an early stage of formation dense molten blobs of iron simply sank to the centre of the planet. This was challenged yesterday by Professor William McCrea, of the Astronomy Centre at Sussex University.

Professor McCrea regards the conventional wisdom about the Earth's core as too convenient an explanation without much supporting evidence.

It means that some very unusual conditions prevailed at one stage in the early part of the creation of the planet, whereby just the iron mineral was completed in its formation and, effectively all of it was able to sink together to the centre of the Earth.

He is dissatisfied with that theory for several reasons. It means that the Earth

Planet of iron



Finding out: A girl examines air and water with a jar in a fish tank. The British Association is starting a campaign to interest primary school children in science, including an awards scheme (Photograph: David Hodge).

has to have come from an interstellar gas cloud, consisting mostly of hydrogen and helium, but containing enough other material to form the Earth, by collapsing into a planet-size body.

Such a "primordial" cloud would have had a radius of one fifth of the Earth's sun distance, and he says, that mass would have been very reluctant to collapse under its own gravity.

However, if any "large" grains were contained in such a cloud, and by that he means particles slightly bigger than 100 microns (one micron is a millimetre), they would then have congregated at the centre of the cloud within a short span of time of about 10,000 years.

The size of the grains is important because they would have come under the influence of the magnetic field of the Sun, forming near by, and thereby been attracted to each other to produce a massive core, with a gravitational pull strong enough to attract the remaining grains not magnetized, to form the outer mantle of the planet.

Another established theory to come under fire concerned the origins of comets, which have been believed to have come from a belt outside the solar system.

Dr Mark Bailey, of Sussex University, suggests another idea is that there is a swarm of comets much closer to the Sun and that they are responsible for pulling the outer planets slightly out of position.

With comets so close, there would be no need to search for the tell-tale planet, which has long been thought to exist, to account for the irregularities in calculation.

Ear trumpet 'still effective hearing aid'

The old-fashioned ear trumpet is still one of the most effective aids for the hard of hearing. Mr Michael Martin, head of the scientific and technical department of the Royal National Institute for the Deaf, said yesterday.

Outlining progress in better electronic aids, he said that the disability often was not one of hearing what was said, but of not understanding speech, even though it was loud enough. Significant developments in hearing aids were "few and far between".

In spite of intense research, the conventional hearing aid was still the only viable device generally available.

Medical research groups working on better designs for artificial arms and electronically-controlled hands faced a hurdle which was not, strictly speaking, a scientific one, Dr Ian Fletcher, senior medical officer at the Department of Health and Social Security's limb fitting centre in Roehampton, south-west London, told the meeting.

He estimated the problems

of fitting a prosthesis to a limb were "not so much the mechanical problem as the psychological problem".

Mr Fletcher said that education

and training were "vital" to the success of the prosthesis.

Mr Fletcher said that the

present curriculum was not

constructed to meet the educational aims considered desirable today.

"An advantage of the proposed modular system is that it would allow a student to achieve a much better balance without offending against the integrity of subjects," he said.

Mathematics could be divided

into some units concerned with the mathematics of everyday life, some units that were required for industry and commerce, and some units as a preparation for more advanced courses.

Mr Aitken said: "At 14 a student might do only the everyday life units but the important feature of the system is that at any stage he could progress by adding further units."

Such a system would

cross the school/further education divide and would mean that education would no longer have to be provided in an institution.

There would have to be a discussion about how long a unit should be but a convenient length might be 25 hours teaching time, organized into five school periods each week or one week's continuous work.

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Social services told to show people their case records

By Pat Healy, Social Services Correspondent

People receiving help from the social services are to be given the right to see their case records under guidance issued yesterday by the Department of Health and Social Services.

The guidance overturns decades of practice in which social workers compiled confidential files on elderly people, children disabled people and mentally ill or handicapped people, in the expectation that their subject would never read them.

The department has been compelled to lay down rules on access to the files because a number of local councils have decided that they should be open.

A circular outlining how councils should make such files accessible asks them to set up safeguards to protect information from or about third parties.

The circular, which comes after a consultation paper issued last month, also wants safeguards to protect social workers' judgments and to consider the possibility that some people might be distressed by what they read in their files.

Elderly people, for example, might learn that they were less than welcome in their families, or children might discover that their parents had criminal records or a history of mental disorder.

Information provided by third parties, such as doctors,

teachers and the police, should not be disclosed without their consent, the circular says.

Senior people in social services departments should decide when sensitive information is to be made available or withheld.

Requests from children in care for address to their files should be treated in the same way as requests from adults; mentally ill or mentally handicapped people should be treated in the same way as other people unless they are incapable of managing their own affairs, the circular says.

But in most cases it will be necessary for a social worker to be present when files are opened, and in some cases clients may need special counselling to help them understand the contents of their records.

Robbery charge boys remanded

Three boys, all aged 15, accused of robbing a girl aged 12 of £8 in cash and a signing ring were remanded in local authority care yesterday for eight days at Balsall Juvenile Court, south London.

They will appear before Lambeth Juvenile Court on September 2. Reporting restrictions were not lifted.

Shuttle expected to draw callers

By Bill Johnstone, Electronics Correspondent

British Telecom expects a substantial increase in telephone traffic next Tuesday when subscribers dial to overheat communications between the newly-launched space shuttle and its control centre in Houston, Texas.

More than £100,000 was spent by British telephone callers during the last two shuttle flights in April this year and last August. Next week's flight takes off at 6am at the right, for the first time.

The shuttle, the eighth to be launched by the United States, is expected to take off at about 6.30am BST. Telephone callers wanting to dial the shuttle service can do so from two hours before the take-off.

In the past there has only been voice communication between the space-craft and earth for about 20 per cent of each orbit but that is expected to be improved by a new communications satellite launched last June. A sister satellite, to be launched next spring, will give continuous voice communication.

Next week's mission is due to last until September 5. Bad weather will delay the launch.

The crew members are Richard Truly, the commander, Dan Brandenstein, the co-pilot and three mission specialists: Dale Gardner, Bill Thornton and Guion Bluford.

Shuttle number: 810-1-307-410-6272.

Computer to teach Spanish

By our Electronics Correspondent

A method for learning foreign languages in a quarter of the time normally taken by conventional means has been developed for home microcomputers by a psychologist.

The system, evolved by Dr Michael Grunberg, from University College, Swansea, and called Linkword, has been designed to give the student proficiency in 400 words of vocabulary in about 12 hours.

The programs are being written for the BBC Microcomputer, manufactured by Acorn, and will go on the market by Christmas. Each course, of a dozen hours, will be split into two sections or modules, each of which will cost between £10 and £20.

The program provides a visual link between an English word and the respective foreign word, based on its sound. For example in Spanish, which will be the first language package available, bread in English is translated into pan. The student will see the screen of his home microcomputer a colour graphic with bread in a pan. The student, the creator of the program, says, is able to learn quicker because of his visual association.

Acorn says: "The user has a visual mnemonic which makes more efficient use of the brain".

The language programs are expected to be available on other types of microcomputers. More programs will be written for other languages.

Miner dies

Mr Paul Lynam, aged 18, a miner of Limby, Nottinghamshire, died yesterday, a day after suffering internal injuries when he was trapped in an underground conveyor belt at Babbington Colliery, Nottingham.

Finance firm chief jailed for fraud

A finance company chairman, Robert Millage, lived in a "make-believe world of self-delusion" when he offered firms cash loans at low interest rates, the Central Criminal Court in London was told yesterday.

After only five months trading his company collapsed with debts of £124,000 without completing a single transaction and he had traded while an unchartered bankrupt, the court heard.

Millage, aged 42, of Abberley Close, Church Hill, Redditch, Hereford and Worcestershire,

was jailed for three years for fraudulent trading, obtaining

£40,500 in loans from a bank

and a building society, and

making false statements in

1966. He was banned from

managing a company for five

years.

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Judge Sutcliffe, QC, told Millage: "You are not God's gift to humanity. You are prepared to lie your way out at any length, but you are not going to win by deceiving honest people".

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East and West getting together

Angry delegates stage sit-in over Malta at Madrid conference

From Richard Wigg, Madrid

Spain announced yesterday that it is going ahead with invitations to the foreign ministers of the 35 nations at the European Security Review Conference to come for a major East-West gathering here early next month, regardless of Malta still pursuing obstructionist tactics.

Señor Fernando Moran, the Spanish Foreign Minister, is anxious for Madrid to be the scene between September 7 and 9 of an encounter between Mr George Shultz, the US Secretary of State, and Mr Andrei Gromyko, the Soviet Minister.

The foreign ministers' gathering, diplomats explained, would be held technically outside the security conference framework with invitations issued by Spain through the normal diplomatic channels.

Malta has obliged the 34 Western, Communist and neutral countries to adopt this course by refusing to join in the consensus on a 35-page final document dealing with East-West relations which everyone else accepted on July 15.

A formal concluding session of the almost three-year long Madrid meeting would have to be held later.

US signs Moscow grain deal

From Richard Owen, Moscow

Mr John Block, the American Agriculture Secretary, yesterday met Mr Gaidar Aliev, the Soviet Deputy Prime Minister, in what is seen as a further move towards easing Soviet-American relations.

Mr Block described the talks as "constructive, useful and friendly", although some diplomats were sceptical, pointing out that the Kremlin and the White House remained at daggers drawn. Mr Block agreed there was "more work to be done".

Earlier, Mr Block had signed a new grain agreement providing for an increase in American grain supplies over the next five years. He described this as a very important occasion. Mr Nikolai Patolichev, the Soviet Foreign Trade Minister, who signed on behalf of Russia, nodded and said "yes".

It was not the most earth-shattering exchange between politicians of East and West but it did mark a slight thaw in the distinctly chilly relations between Moscow and the Reagan Administration. Mr Block is the most senior administration official to visit here since the funeral of President Brezhnev last November.

The meeting with Mr Aliev, who is a full Politburo member, is seen as a sign that both sides are using the visit to explore a political *rapprochement*, perhaps eventually leading to an Andropov-Reagan summit. The meeting was squeezed into what amounted to a one and a half day visit.

Mr Block leaves Moscow this morning. He said on arrival on Wednesday that the new grain agreement not only marked a return to more normal trading relations but also showed that Russia and America could work

Moscow mirth: Mr Block, left, and Mr Patolichev after the signing of the grain agreement.

East Germans given missile message

From Michael Binyon, Bonn

Herr Egon Bahr, the Social Democratic disarmament expert, yesterday held talks in East Berlin with Herr Oskar Fischer, the East German Foreign Minister, continuing the top level discussions he has been having there about the deployment of new Nato missiles in West Germany.

On Wednesday Herr Erich Honecker, the East German leader, gave him an unusually blunt warning that if West Germany went ahead with deployment, the Soviet Union would be "forced" to station more medium-range missiles.

He also said that it would be

necessary to deploy effective kinds of operative-tactical missiles with a longer range in forward positions in Warsaw Pact countries.

His warning was prominently displayed in East German newspapers yesterday. He also told Herr Bahr that the missiles the Russians would put in East Germany would reach their targets more quickly than the Pershings aimed at Moscow. But he added that an arms agreement in Geneva was still possible.

The Christian-Social Union, whose leader Herr Franz Josef Strauss met Herr Honecker on a

recent occasion, said that it would be

controversial visit last month, criticized the East German leader's remarks as being of "little help". He said that the threatened deployment in the East raised the question whether the Soviet side was seriously interested in disarmament.

During his visit, Herr Bahr also discussed the DM1,000m (£250m) West German credit to East Berlin. The two countries' close economic links were further underlined earlier this week by West German trade figures for the first half of 1983, which showed that trade with East Germany rose by 16 per cent over last year.

The conservative newspaper, *Die Welt*, echoing the views of senior officials in Chancellor Kohl's Government, said that the leading article published in *The Times* on August 17 could have "fatal consequences" if the British Government were to follow up such proposals.

The Times believed that Belgium and The Netherlands would want to follow Britain's lead in leaving the defence of forward positions in Germany to the Bundeswehr.

The Germans have also been

hurt by suggestions that they play the role of only a junior partner in Nato.

The Soviet Union had agreed to grant \$5m worth of credits for a textile mill which had been started with Soviet help in the 1960s, and a school for agricultural technicians.

The Russians also promised to write off \$2m worth of debt.

Uganda leaders conclude \$7m pact in Russia

By Henry Stanhope

Diplomatic Correspondent

Four Uganda government ministers passed through London yesterday after concluding deals worth about £4.5m in Moscow.

They met a number of commercial contacts while in Britain, and appealed for investors to return to Kampala.

Dr Luwuliza Kirunda, the Minister of Internal Affairs and leader of the delegation, said that security was now comparable with that in any other African country at a similar stage of development.

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Insults fly as Cameroon chiefs wrangle

By Henry Stanhope

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Bonn alarm at 'Times' view on Rhine army

From Our Own Correspondent, Bonn

The debate on the Rhine Army started by *The Times* is being followed closely in Bonn by politicians and military leaders who have expressed alarm at the idea of Britain's handing over responsibility for the defence of West Germany's eastern frontier to a German unit.

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Canadian Liberal Party backbenchers clamour for Trudeau's resignation

Mr Pierre Trudeau's career is burning since the Canadian Prime Minister, left on a European holiday with his three sons more than a week ago, there has been an unprecedented outburst of calls for his resignation from backbenchers of his Liberal Party.

And this week, to add to his tribulations, a Cabinet minister sworn in 10 days earlier suddenly quit for undisclosed personal reasons. He was Mr Roger Stinson, Minister for Mines and Newfoundland's representative in the Cabinet. He has been an MP since 1979.

Suddenly, the Prime Minister's hold on the party and on power seems to have become extremely weak.

Seven Liberal MPs interviewed in a survey by the Canadian Press news agency stated their belief — on the record — that he should step down.

Perhaps the bluntest of the seven was Mr John Reid, a former Minister for Federal Provincial Relations who was passed over when Mr Trudeau put together a new Cabinet on regaining power in 1980.

"I believe it's time for Mr Trudeau to go," Mr Reid, who represents a north-western Ontario riding, said. "He's completed his agenda, and I don't know what he is sticking around for."

'Dead' Argentine escapes captors



Señor Kelly: Political crusader led to jail

Señor Patricio Kelly, a key witness in several human rights court cases who was kidnapped in Buenos Aires on Wednesday, is alive and well after escaping from his captors.

Earlier reports said he had been found dead outside the capital.

Señor Kelly told the police he got away by jumping out of a car. His wife Irma told the independent news agency Noticias Argentinas that he escaped near the Buenos Aires suburb of Ingeniero Maschwitz.

"Patricio is very hurt because he jumped out from the moving car," she said.

An eyewitness reported that Señor Kelly, running and shouting, "I'm Kelly, I'm Kelly, tell the police and Buenos Aires", appeared at an Argentine Automobile club station. A police car took him to a police station.

Señor Kelly, a maverick figure in Argentine politics, was kidnapped by a group of armed men in the capital shortly after leaving his home by car for the city centre.

A police car was on the spot but did not intervene to help him. Señor Kelly was beaten up and driven off in his own car, eye witnesses said.

A police statement said one of the kidnappers was a man dressed in the uniform of an army colonel. He told the policemen that only a minor traffic accident had taken place and they drove off.

A clandestine group calling itself "Free Argentina" claimed it had kidnapped and killed Señor Kelly. In a brief news conference in front of his suburban home Señor Kelly refused to say now he escaped. His face bruised

Lawyer charged over sex tape report

Los Angeles (Reuters) Mr Robert Steinberg, a lawyer, has been charged with filing a false police report claiming that sex films involving Reagan Administration officials were stolen from his office.

"The people's theory in the case is that the films never existed," Miss Martha Revel, the prosecutor, told a Beverly Hills municipal court.

Mr Steinberg attracted wide attention last month when he said he had seen sex films showing two officials of ambassadorial rank, a Congressman; two prominent businessmen Alfred Bloomingdale, the late multi-millionaire adviser to President Reagan; and Miss Vicki Morgan, Mr Bloomingdale's mistress, who was married on July 7.

Civilians named in new Upper Volta Cabinet

Ouagadougou, (AFP) — A new Upper Volta Government has been formed, mostly of civilians three weeks after the coup by radical Army officers led by Captain Thomas Sanaka against the administration of Major Jean-Baptiste Ouédraogo.

The 15 civilians and five military men in the new Government, installed on Wednesday night, are very young, with an average age of about 30.

Captain Sanaka, who was Prime Minister under Major Ouédraogo before being dismissed earlier this year, holds the offices of head of state and Minister of the Interior and Security.

The new Cabinet includes —

Minister is jeered and booed in Gdansk

against the Government are running high.

Since returning to power in 1980 after a nine-month Tory tenure of office, the Liberals under Mr Trudeau have had the misfortune of presiding over the worst recession in Canada's post-war history.

The Liberals are reeling the whirlwind — or so it appears — from their hasty in engineering the overthrow of the Tory minority government and smashing back power, which in 1980 they had had for 38 of the previous 45 years.

As it turned out, they could not have picked a worse time to return to office, with the economic downturn deepening almost everywhere.

Mr Trudeau, who has been in office since 1968 except for the brief Tory interlude, is the focus of much of the frustration and discontent felt by Liberals as their party's fortunes tumble.

The president of the party, Mrs. June Campagnolo, summed up the feelings of many Liberals, and the hope of many others, when she said recently that the public's dissatisfaction is with the Prime Minister, not the Liberal Party.

In line with that, a senior adviser to Mr Trudeau was later quoted as saying the Prime Minister will probably announce his resignation by Christmas. In fact, he may no longer have much choice.

He was in Ottawa for a few days on business, enjoying the break from summer holidays in his constituency, where feelings

Gdansk (AFP, Reuters) — Workers at the Lenin shipyard here greeted Mr Mieczyslaw Rakowski, the deputy Prime Minister, with boos, whistles and hisses yesterday.

When he finally began his address at 4 pm, it was to between 1,500 and 2,000 workers packed into a hall designed to hold 500.

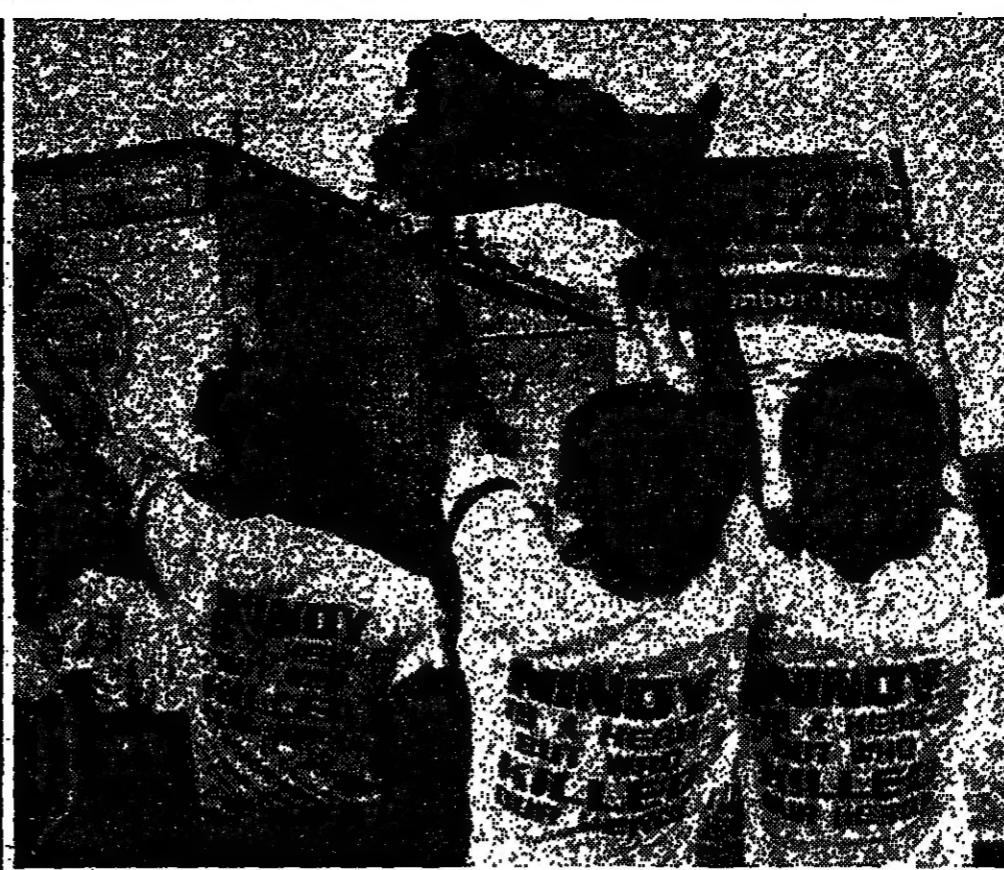
Meanwhile, workers at the entrance to the shipyard said that a go-slow was in progress in many of the workshops.

The crowd outside the meeting hall grew steadily, as a contingent of militia moved into place round the monument to victims of the workers revolt to December 1970, a traditional Solidarity rallying point next to the shipyards.

Earlier, the Government stepped up its propaganda barrage to discredit Solidarity in advance of possible protests at the end of the month to mark the anniversary of the creation of the independent trade union.

The campaign included only a brief reference to Mr Wladyslaw Jaruzelski, the underground leader in Cracow who appeared on television on Tuesday to announce that he was giving up his struggle and was freed under an amnesty.

Newspapers gave prominence to a report by the PAP news agency that a call for a work slow-down at the Lenin shipyards in Gdansk, the birthplace of Solidarity, had failed.



Thousands follow Aquino coffin

Mourners marching behind the coffin of Benigno Aquino in Manila yesterday. The huge crowds waved placards such as

"Remember Ninoy", the nickname of the murdered Filipino opposition leader (Reuters reports).

Eyewitnesses said the crowds following the coffin from the Aquino family home to Santo Domingo church about a mile away were almost double the police estimate of 60,000.

Mr Aquino's widow, Corazon, returned from the United States with their five children on Wednesday night for the funeral.

The Philippines' police chief, Major-General Fidel Ramos, said yesterday contingency plans had been drawn up against possible disturbances when large numbers of people arrived in Manila for the funeral, tentatively scheduled for Wednesday.

Vanishing politician deported to Austria

From W. P. Reeves Wellington

A former Austrian parliamentarian who disappeared under mysterious circumstances while on holiday in Italy two years ago will be deported from New Zealand to his homeland to face fraud charges.

Walter Paul Renner, aged 37, described by his lawyer as a "political hot potato", was convicted in Auckland yesterday on two immigration charges.

Renner was a leading figure in a property development company which had accumulated debts totalling £1.5m. His counsel, Mr Kevin Gould, told the court that the sum involved in fraud charges against him amounted to £40,000.

Renner disappeared on September 5, 1981. His clothes were found on a beach and he was presumed to have drowned. He is understood to have travelled first to England before arriving in New Zealand in November, 1981.

Under an alias he found work as a machine operator.

Mr Gould said Renner had become an MP in Austria in 1979. His liberal views had led to his falling out with the party leader early in 1981.

According to Mr Gould the strife he caused made him a hot potato. At the same time the company of which he was managing director got into "tremendous financial difficulties" and he resigned.

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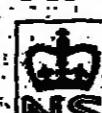
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MEDICAL BRIEFING

Pigeon peril for heart patient

Mr Keith Castle (above), the heart transplant patient, is home again after a 10-week stay in Papworth Hospital where he is being treated for cryptococcal pneumonia; a very rare and potentially deadly fungal disease borne by pigeons.

Until June this year Mr Castle had not given much thought to pigeons. However, as he has enormous energy he decided recently to repair his roof. Pigeons were getting through the tiles and their droppings were mixing with the dust of ages on the floor of the roof space. It must have been this dust, breathed in by Mr Castle, which contained the lethal fungus *Cryptococcus neoformans*.

He was aware of the infection only because of a fortunate chest X-ray, for the fungus does not give rise to symptoms and serious trouble until it has spread from the lungs. In his case the disease, diagnosed while still confined to the lungs, has been treated with the powerful antifungal agent Amphotericin B, which he has had fed intravenously for four hours every other day. He has now completed two-thirds of the course; for the last third he will be an outpatient. His many well-wishers will be glad to know that the infection is receding.

Pigeons can also carry another form of pneumonia, ornithosis, caused by *Chlamydial psittaci*. Although rather less rare than cryptococcosis, it is however much more easily treated with a prolonged course of heavy doses of oral tetracycline. People whose association with pigeons does not go beyond throwing them the occasional stale crust are unlikely to be affected.

Needless dread

People will notice, but be too kind to draw attention to, the urgency with which the middle-aged man rushes to the lavatory. Surgeons are concerned that this conspiracy of politeness has given rise to a quite unnecessary dread which delays patients from having a necessary, statistically very safe, and quick operation. With a good surgeon, and if all goes well, a man may have a transurethral resection, the internal operation without any external wound, and be back at work within a fortnight.

Although in most men with prostatic symptoms the enlargement can be classified as benign, in some the tissue has turned malignant. There is good news for these patients. Two studies published in *The Lancet* of a new ICI product suggest that soon treatment may be possible without a man having to tolerate mutilating surgery, or the side effects of huge, castrating doses of female hormones.

Partnership problems

Scientists writing in the *American Journal of Epidemiology* have evaluated the effect of a wife's personality and education on the chance of her husband developing heart disease. Data gleaned from 269 marriages followed over 10 years show that if striving ambitious men marry women who have had further education than their chance of heart disease is increased by 2.5 times; if the wife works outside the home by 3.5 times. The danger can be minimized if the man chooses a woman with a similar personality to his own; married to an easy-going woman he will fare particularly badly.

New antidepressant

The diagnosis and treatment of depression has featured in the correspondence columns of *The Times* this week, while a small news item drew attention to a new antidepressant, bupropion, trade name Wellbutrin, which, it is claimed, can be effective in treating people who have failed to respond to other antidepressants.

Papers on its use were enthusiastically received at the World Congress in Vienna, and reports in *The Clinical Journal of Psychiatry* were encouraging, but while the American FDA shows every sign of approval, rumours of doubt from the British Committee for Safety of Medicines have been heard.

Bupropion, therefore, may join a long list of preparations which are available only on one side of the Atlantic.

Dr Thomas Stuttaford

Correction
In Madhur Jaffrey's cooking article on Wednesday, the recipe for carrots with raisins and dates should have read: "Five medium-sized carrots and 1 medium-sized onion, peeled."

It's just more bigger over there

The US came top of the list in a survey of children's holiday choices published this week.

Alan Franks reports

If you have children between the ages of eight and 12, there is a strong likelihood that at least one of them is, where holidays are concerned, a nomadic, ice cream-loving, snail-hating aeronaut. Almost certainly, he or she is a thwarted Americophile.

This much, and plenty more, emerges from a survey just released by MORI (Market and Opinions Research International). It was conducted for Thomas Cook, the travel agents who were aware, like many parents, that the pre-adolescent sector has become, if not the seat of important summer decision-making, then at least a potent pressure group.

After all holidays, like houses and cars, are major items of family expenditure; and even if it is the parent who signs the cheque, it is no less the children who must live with the commitment. They derive much of their fascination from the fact that, again like houses and cars, they occupy the common ground between the two worlds of adults and children.

To influence the family's location for a fortnight, therefore, is to touch the levers of power.

MORI plumped for this age sector because, as director Tim Burns agrees, children younger than eight are hard to communicate with on abstractions or hypotheses. They occupy their own fantasy worlds so vividly that the matter of a holiday's physical placement is not of primary importance. Once over 13, of course, they begin to think in terms of adult behaviour and we have only ourselves to blame for the results of their spines.

MORI began with three groups of children, each consisting of six members. The first comprised girls of nine from working class families, the second middle class girls of 12, and the third boys of 10 and 11 from a mixture of family backgrounds. From these preliminary interviews was evolved a 12-part questionnaire in which 509 children took part during half-term holidays at the beginning of June. They were drawn from a broad cross-section of age (within the four-year span), social class, and region.

According to Burns, the process was a surprisingly educative one for parents as well as for Cooks. Under the code of conduct laid down by the Market Research Society, an adult must always be present at an interview with a child, and one of



the most popular parental misconceptions to be banished during these sessions was that children have a sort of holiday homing instinct - a desire to return to the same place year after year.

In fact only 32 per cent wanted to go back, with 64 per cent favouring fresh pastures and 4 per cent undecided.

Of those fresh pastures, North America is clearly the most popular - favoured by half those interviewed - Europe in second place on a 34 per cent vote. Britain claims only 8 per cent, level with Australia and New Zealand.

Sadly, these figures are a world away from reality, since just 1 per cent of the children made it to the States last year, 16 per cent to Europe, none to the Antipodes - but 78 per cent to Britain. The transatlantic lure is best summarized by this quote from an eight-year-old girl: "America's more bigger than all the other countries. The best bit about America is Disneyland. It's got three countries in America, it's got Washington DC, New York and Sidney."

Not that the badly undersubscribed Australia is without its romance, if you heed this 10-year-old blonde: "I'd go to Australia, probably with a girl or something like that."

Burns says that, while he, like many parents, was surprised by the "wanderlust" element in the returns, the penchant for America was predictable.

"As you can see, although few have been, there is a certain level of knowledge that all children share about the States, partly from the TV of course, but also from the importation of what you could call the McDonalds culture . . . the country appears to them to be bigger, badder, livelier and more exciting, all aspects which are very important. In this respect, America is a childlike country."

It is not just cost that inhibits parents from taking family holidays to America; there are the four other disincentives of food, healthcare, heat/climate, and travel problems, none of which loom nearly as large in a United Kingdom venture. What parents are obviously failing to grasp is that "Abroad" is not just a concept, it is actually another country.

In the words of this nine-year-old girl: "Abroad there'll be nicer beaches and the sea is warmer, the beach will be warmer, there'll be sand." Sentiments echoed by another girl with three years more experience of these matters: "Abroad you get a better sun tan than you would here." Yet the harsh truth is that only 37 per cent of the sample

have already travelled abroad, compared with the total of 79 per cent who still want to go for a first or subsequent time.

Parents also have much to learn about family democracy. In 84 per cent of the cases, the decision on where to go is taken by "Mum or Dad only", while the children hold sway in only 16 per cent of households.

Girl aged 12: "Well, my parents decide where to go and ask us if we'd like to go there." Girl aged nine: "We have this quiz, who goes where, and my Dad normally wins."

Aeroplanes are the most popular means of getting there with 47 per cent of the vote, followed by hovercraft (27), ship (16), train (eight), car (six) and coach (one). Sea travel, of course, has its problems, as this 12-year-old girl explains so graphically: "You start to get excited, I love going on ferries, then you start to get ill."

Taking all forms of travel together, only 27 per cent said they fell sick - in some cases, like this boy of 11, for unexpected reasons: "Setting off you start feeling sick sometimes because you are so bored and can't wait."

Among girls, hotels emerge as the favourite accommodation, for excellent reasons such as these, both from 12-year-olds: "A hotel is posh, you meet new people"; and: "In a hotel

you get room service, if you make a mess it's all cleared up for you." Boys share the judgment, but only with a figure of 39 per cent compared with the girls' 53 per cent. For both genders, a camp site is second choice and a villa third.

The top five desiderata at hotels are swimming pool, restaurants and bars, indoor games, nice beds and outdoor games. "Fitted carpets and a waiter to bring my food by the pool," says a 10-year-old girl. "Marble tiles in the corridors so I can make a noise with my shoes," says a male contemporary.

Ice cream tops the list of favourite holiday fare (only two per cent declaring it "horrid"), but all the other popular options (fish and chips, soup, fried chicken and french bread) score in the high eighties or nineties. In the hate poll, stools just outstrip frogs legs, with octopus only slightly less loathsome.

The ten "most fun activities" are, in order: staying up late, swimming in a pool, playing on the beach, going to an adventure playground, attending parties/barbecues, swimming in the sea, playing with other English children, boating and water sports, going to discos, and eating in a restaurant.

Less fun activities include going for a drink with Mum and Dad, watching parades and playing in hotel lifts.

While away, only 36 per cent miss home, 60 per cent do not, and four per cent are uncertain. Most sorely missed by one respondent is "Foxy the cat, Bramble my best Teddy, and my bed". The quote is not attributed, but with altered names, the sentiments are infinitely translatable.

Mr Andrew Barrett, marketing director of Cooks, believes that his company, thus armed, will be better able to point the undecided parent, or indeed child, in the right direction. As you read this, he himself is traveling to Disneyland with his two young children, who have been pressing him for an answer to the question: "How big are the Mickey Mouses and do they move about?" Meanwhile, I am going to the Lake District for the umpteenth time, to stay with my wife's seven-year-old god-daughter. I do hope her parents are there, since chatting to them is high on my list of fun activities. My daughter, who is five, longs to stay there year after year, which is fortunate.

One reason for this - not the main one I hope - is that the older girl has a splendid wardrobe of dresses which devolve to her as the most radiant of hand-me-downs. But that, I suppose, is cheating.

COMMENT

Hooray for Hackney

As I walked home along the canal in the blinding sunshine, I thought how pleasant it was to live in this part of London. In view was a duck with eight ducklings, little boys fishing, grandparents walking pretty little children, and lovers dawdling. Where was I? I discovered that I have been happily living for the past eight years in a "no-go" area for almost all except those compelled to remain there", according to Gerald Kaufman, in his column last Monday, and Paul Harrison, who has written a book called *Inside the Inner City*. What can this be? Hackney, hub of the universe?

Can this be the place I moved to because I like it, where I could afford a house, and where the services were good? Far from fleeing the place, I propose to stay in Hackney for the rest of my days.

Not only can I walk to work, I can take any one of seven bus routes. The service is intermittent (as in the rest of London) but there is also the secret railway from Dalston Junction to Richmond, and the newly opened Kingsland station. Within a few moments walk of my gracious Hackney home I have two excellent public libraries, the church I attend, and a number of friendly shops. All hours of the day and night appear to be worked and these are also the hours I walk about the place, returning home from the theatre and parties in the middle of the night without coming to any harm.

I have been burgled twice. The second time, with the aid of my neighbours, the police caught the burglars. The household in London which has not been burgled is a fortunate one.

My house, which was indeed in a sad state when I bought it, has been put in order by me. When I moved there in 1975 there were six derelicts within 200 yards. Now there are none - all have been repaired.

The bombed site opposite has been filled with council houses - not a dreary block, but a reasonable imitation of a London town house. I like the street markets, the frenetic activity of Ridley Road, the garden market on Sundays.

On Sundays the congregation at Mass reflects the population - Irish, English, Italian, Portuguese, black. That variety is what keeps a neighbourhood alive. In Hackney we frighten the children with tales of dark satanic mills in Mr Kaufman's constituency of Gorton, Manchester. None of us has ever set foot in the place.

"Pelican, £3.95.

Philippa Toomey



TALKBACK

Working with a baby in the house

Margery Roberts wrote

last week of the impossibility of mixing a career with bringing up children.

From Audrey Macleod, 94 Woodwards Road, Dulwich
Now Mrs Roberts (First Person, August 19), get your hands out of that bucket of Nappies and put aside your baby wipes. Widens your thinking and be glad you are able to look after your healthy, active kids yourself, for a career plus nanny/granny would undoubtedly treble your anxieties. Relax and enjoy your small children now while at the same time working to change some of your inflexible attitudes.

May I suggest a modest survival kit. First, decide on priorities and job-share some of these with your husband, and secondly aim for a tiny oasis of freedom each day, however scant, and guard it jealously.

Keep your own interests going and your friends (the ones who accept you as you are, and be selfish and spoil yourself often) This way, you will be better able to meet the demanding demands of others without feeling permanently deprived.

Rejoice the grudging "I suppose I shall have to resign myself to motherhood alone" by a more informed and positive approach. You could see yourself as entering an enriching period of growth and emotional development.

From Mary R. Lamberton, 48 The Avenue Kew, Surrey
I am a visitor from America. May I suggest to Margery Roberts that she and others manage to do it without the aid of nannies or mothers-in-law.

I have two children aged eight and five and I have been working for three years for a magazine publisher in Washington, D.C. I can do this for the following reasons:

1. An employer who is willing to hire me for 20-30 hours a week paying my salary on an hourly basis.

2. A school which offers day care after regular school hours until 6pm. Actually, I have never used this myself, I like to come home with the children, but it is a valuable service.

3. A short commute which is only ten minutes in my case.

4. A job which one can perform outside the office. Primary times for a mother are Saturdays when fathers can take over and evenings and early mornings when children are asleep. This flexibility is important when chickpeas appear.

5. Domestic help. I have a daily

once a week which maintains my sanity and minimum standards.

6. A supportive husband: The advantages of being a working mother outweigh the demands from home and office.

From Mrs Jennifer White, 9 Birch Way, Chesham, Buckinghamshire
Margery Roberts is right - the only way a mother can work is to abandon her child to someone else.

However, I must object to her slur on child-minders. As a minder for the past five years, I feel it my duty to point out that we are registered by the council, our houses are checked for safety and first-aid provision and we are limited to three pre-school children at any one time.

We have an area supervisor, regular meetings and access to a toy library. We aspire towards being semi-professionals. Generally, our press image has improved since the "baby farm" scandals of the sixties, and rightly so.

We are not simply second best to a nanny. In fact, we have some advantages over the nanny, apart from being cheaper. Child-minders are usually mothers themselves and are used to children, indeed we enjoy their company.

My personal confidence has hit an all-time low as I have been told by an eighteen-year-old that I'm putting on nappies the wrong way and have got my mask on upside down.

The final blow is, of course, it's not really My Very Own Money. I must go to the joint finances. I would be peed off, after all, if my husband claimed his salary as His Very Own Money.

From Mrs Susan Hawke, 24 Caverside Road, Great Glen, Leicestershire
Margery Roberts mirrors much of my own experience. After 13 years at home with under-fives I know that I would be incapable of combining a career and the care of my family with any degree of success or semblance of sanity.

I count myself fortunate. My husband's salary is sufficient to enable me to stay at home to care for the family and although our lifestyle is, relatively, simple we have no genuine need for a second income.

But let us spare a thought for the unsung heroine of the low-income or single-parent family. She often has no such choice and is forced to work

THE TIMES Tomorrow

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M MITTERRAND EXPLAINS

In his first major explanation of French policy in Chad, President Mitterrand has emphasized that French troops would not be restricted to "purely defensive retaliation" if attacked, and blamed Libya for escalating the fighting in the long civil war. This was a sensible acknowledgement that once seriously committed to military action, the French would find attack the best means of defence; it simultaneously warned Colonel Gaddafi that he should permit a peaceful settlement now rather than risk greater loss of face after a direct clash develops between French and Libyan troops.

By stating that while partition would be unacceptable, a federal solution might be possible and that he expected the Organization of African Unity (OAU) and United Nations to help arrange peace talks, President Mitterrand was making it easier for the Libyan leader to back down. But neither the OAU nor the UN have proved effective in such crises in the past. If it does come to war, Mitterrand has prepared the French public and answered his critics by pointing out that the slow buildup of French forces had both postponed the clash and revealed Libya to all as the aggressor.

The growing French involvement in Chad requires such delicate handling in both foreign and domestic policy that the president's reluctance to discuss the issues fully in public is understandable. But his careful answers to questions agreed beforehand in an interview published yesterday in *Le Monde* have failed to silence complaints that the population is not being

properly informed about a situation which arouses threatening memories of long years of bloodshed in Indochina and Algeria. Media rivals see the interview as a reward for the sympathetic coverage *Le Monde* has given President Mitterrand, and with some justice that a more open statement of policy is called for.

Few Frenchmen trust fully President Hisséne Habré as representing their interests in Chad, remembering as they do his hostility as a rebel less than a decade ago, when for three years he held hostage the French anthropologist Mme Françoise Claes. They fear that the presence of their troops may encourage him to launch a counter-offensive in the hope that the French would be compelled to increase their military commitment in restoring his position against Mr Goukouni Oueddei, who formerly, when President, also received French support.

According to a recent survey, little more than a quarter of those polled supported sending troops to Chad, while over half were opposed. President Mitterrand attempted to calm these fears by stressing that French troops would not be manipulated into participating in a counter-attack: "France will not allow itself to be led where it does not want to go". This protestation does not, of course, exclude a counter-attack if provoked by the Libyan-backed forces.

It is important for President Mitterrand that he should not appear to be acting for Washington to all as the aggressor.

President Mitterrand's exposition yesterday contained a tough message for Colonel Gaddafi, warning him to withdraw without causing further bloodshed. This will clearly be strongly opposed by Mr Goukouni Oueddei, who can expect to gain little at the peace table. The Libyan leader is not famed for his moderation, but it is to be hoped that he will now realize that it is in his own best interests to respond in a reasonable way.

For every Bernard Levin enjoining a surprestitious tendency towards populism there are a thousand electors telling canvassers that politicians are all the same, saying one thing before an election and another after it. If Mr Levin has his way that electoral cynicism will be given an additional boost by Liberals and will further delay the day when this country grapples with the enormity of our present crises.

My view is that the public desires consistency, respects integrity, and resents being conned. The electorate rejected the left-Labour alternative at the election not because it was highly ideological but because it neither rang true nor appeared competent. The question for a party, as well as for the commentators and for the public, is the relevance of its ideology not its existence.

Those many thousands of people who join the Liberal Party and who give their skills, energy and resources without visible reward are by definition not individuals who are likely to sit and wait for a party "line" to be passed down from on high – however much respect and affection they have for David Steel. They tend to be interested in the formulation and promotion of ideas and there is an appropriate structure

Heart of dilemma for the Liberals

From Mr Michael Meadowcroft, MP for Leeds West, (Liberal/Alliance)

Sir, Bernard Levin's article today (August 24) on the Liberals contained too many mischievous half-truths and glosses to answer individually without missing the heart of the genuine dilemma that has always faced political parties, and which is far more acute when social and economic conditions are as serious as they currently are.

That dilemma is simply stated: should a political party hide or fudge the truth as it sees fit for the sake of electoral success, and then hope that the public will not notice or will not mind if it says one thing and does another? Or should it present its analysis and its programme, even if unpopular, and seek to persuade the electors of its validity?

Roy Hattersley, for instance, now appears to subscribe to the former view. He regularly intones that Labour "has a moral duty to win next time", i.e., any package that can remove Mrs Thatcher from office deserves Labour support. Bernard Levin, and a number of other commentators, also believe that electoral success is paramount and that any debate on strategy and priorities risks offending the tender sensibilities of our gentle and delicate electors.

For every Bernard Levin enjoining a surprestitious tendency towards populism there are a thousand electors telling canvassers that politicians are all the same, saying one thing before an election and another after it. If Mr Levin has his way that electoral cynicism will be given an additional boost by Liberals and will further delay the day when this country grapples with the enormity of our present crises.

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Those many thousands of people who join the Liberal Party and who give their skills, energy and resources without visible reward are by definition not individuals who are likely to sit and wait for a party "line" to be passed down from on high – however much respect and affection they have for David Steel. They tend to be interested in the formulation and promotion of ideas and there is an appropriate structure

for the debating and testing of such ideas.

No party in its right mind deliberately stresses those parts of its programme that are the least attractive, but equally no party with any integrity pretends that there are solutions to our current malaise that do not require sacrifice on the part of the public. It is not a question of a handful of Liberal policies that Mr Levin so cheerfully caricatures. It is an approach to society, the kinds of values that are worth while and possible in the final years of this century, and the policies by which they can be achieved. These are the weal and more legitimate targets for Mr Levin's incisive mind and fluent pen. Any lesser target is much too easy.

The difference between Bernard Levin and the working politician is that Mr Levin can write his commentary and then, if he so wishes, walk away from the problem. The MP or the councillor does not have that luxury, she or he has to find answers to the problems. One takes Mr Levin's advice very seriously but I only wish that it was as thoroughly thought through as his writing on Wagner.

Yours faithfully,

MICHAEL MEADOWCROFT,
House of Commons.
August 24.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Universities unable to pull full weight

From Professor J. M. Thomas, FRS
Sir, The authors of the Merton report on the support of university scientific research, June, 1982, estimated that two thirds of the nation's fundamental research is carried out in the universities. This is a far bigger proportion than in any other country. Yet the amount of money allocated for it is meagre compared to the scale, success and wealth-creating influence of that

accumulated deficit on the equipment grant of about £220m. The universities do not have it within their power properly to replace obsolescent equipment, still less are they in a position without outside aid, to develop to pursue important new developments.

For example, a team of scientists in this university has recently explored a new magnetic resonance technique that is likely to serve several branches of physical science. The equipment needed to exploit it and train new graduates in its use costs £200,000, more than the university can afford to allocate to a single group. It will not be possible, therefore, to develop this work unless the Science and Engineering Research Council provides the bulk of the equipment.

Equipment costs of this magnitude are very common; they are an essential ingredient of modern scientific activity, from anatomy to zoology. Many of these costs should not be met by the SERC; the universities should possess adequate resources to support work and replace facilities that they themselves deem important. It is in the nation's interest that more funds are made available for properly equipping our universities. That was one of the recommendations of the Merton report.

Yours faithfully,

J. M. THOMAS,
Department of Physical Chemistry,
University of Cambridge,
Lensfield Road,
Cambridge.
August 18.

CDC in Philippines

From the Chairman of the Commonwealth Development Corporation

Sir, In writing about the Liberal Party Bernard Levin rightly identifies "sleep in the psyche of the left... a belief, in by no means ignoble, that power is corrupting and that the left was put on earth to resist corruption and to purify".

But he, somewhat surprisingly, fails to distinguish between the Liberal Party and the rest of the left. Among the latter he rightly states that the left gives rise to schizophrenia.

Liberals, on the other hand, have realised (to adapt Francis Bacon very slightly) that "power is like muck, not good except it be spread". This is the foundation of democracy and needs to be taken further than we have taken it in this country.

It does indeed give rise in a highly centralised country to problems concerning means and ends, but it emphatically need not lead to the self-destruction to be seen in the rest of the left.

Yours faithfully,

TIM BEAUMONT,

(Past President, Liberal Party),

1 Hampstead Square, NW3.
August 24.

job with a decent wage has more than the material benefit for those employed. The fact that there is benefit to the country as a whole in the productive use of land which has been largely uncultivated must be in the long-term interests of the Philippines people.

CDC's reputation has been built upon development projects in the agricultural sector which have benefited both the people individually and the economies of the countries in which we operate – and also, incidentally, the British taxpayer.

We have taken every conceivable measure to ensure that human rights are respected as far as the workers on the project are concerned. The Lost Command no longer has any role in the security of the estate. We have our own man resident in the area who is monitoring conditions at the project.

The opportunity to get a regular

Body and mind

From Mr Anthony Young

Sir, Your unnecessarily astirring editorial, "Physician heal thyself" (August 10) does science an injustice by blaming the failings of modern "orthodox" medicine on the "scientific approach". It is the obsession with the method and the technology with subsequent loss of contact with the patient at a personal level that is at fault, not the "scientific approach" itself.

A great harm will be done if, in our haste to expose the currently unorthodox, we lose sight of the fundamental scientific principle that the methods and results of any form of therapy must be carefully scrutinised to see if they are effective. Without these checks unqualified quacks and qualified charlatans will be the ones that benefit, not the patients.

Doctors are cautious of the "unorthodox" because they like first to see proper evidence that these treatments help patients – as I believe many of them do. Surely that caution should be encouraged not derided.

Yours faithfully,

ANTHONY YOUNG,

The Consulting Rooms,
York House,
199 Westminster Bridge Road, SE1.
August 11.

job with a decent wage has more than the material benefit for those employed. The fact that there is benefit to the country as a whole in the productive use of land which has been largely uncultivated must be in the long-term interests of the Philippines people.

One wonders if the implications have been fully appreciated. There is a strong possibility that someone who should have given information to the police last week as a public duty will receive a huge reward for his or her prostration.

Furthermore, in future incidents of this type there will be a temptation for vital witnesses to withhold information until they feel the accumulating bait has reached its peak.

Yours faithfully,

J. BULL,
Flat 20a East,
High Street,
Keynsham,
Bristol, Avon.

Mermaid Theatre sale

From Mr Nicholas Reynolds

Sir, The announcement on your front page (August 12) of the proposed sale of the Mermaid Theatre is distressing.

More than 15 years ago members of staff and I attempted to set up a "Theatre Club" in the City of London School, minutes down the road from Puddle Dock. This was no easy task in a school whose catchment area was the entire commuter belt and a reluctance to stay on after hours to enjoy the opportunities of London's theatres was marked.

Bernard Miles gave us all possible help and encouragement. At the Mermaid we learn what the art of the theatre really might be. We had high hopes of increasing cooperation between our exciting theatrical neighbour and the City's school.

Today, the move of the school to the muddy hole immediately adjoining Puddle Dock has still not been effected; and the Mermaid is to be sold. How do the City Fathers expect to educate their sons?

Yours faithfully,

NICHOLAS REYNOLDS,
2 Danube Street,
Edinburgh.

job with a decent wage has more than the material benefit for those employed. The fact that there is benefit to the country as a whole in the productive use of land which has been largely uncultivated must be in the long-term interests of the Philippines people.

One wonders if the implications have been fully appreciated. There is a strong possibility that someone who should have given information to the police last week as a public duty will receive a huge reward for his or her prostration.

Furthermore, in future incidents of this type there will be a temptation for vital witnesses to withhold information until they feel the accumulating bait has reached its peak.

Yours faithfully,

RONALD PRESTON,
Beeston Hall,
Beeston St Lawrence, Norwich,
Norfolk.

Wind of class

From Sir Ronald Preston

Sir, In his amusing article on "Class warfare on the open road" today (August 2), in which he turns a psychoanalytical eye on the names of cars, your Correspondent finds himself plainly stumped by the origin of the name "Passat". To him it is a "total mystery" to which he adds the gratuitous suggestion that perhaps it is the name "of an expensive resort in the Atlas Mountains known only to the rich Germans".

A glance at a German-English dictionary would have quickly dispelled the mystery for it gives Passat as the word in German for "trade wind", a name which could well have been included in the "male macho" list of car names.

Yours faithfully,

RONALD PRESTON,
Beeston Hall,
Beeston St Lawrence, Norwich,
Norfolk.

FAR AND FOREIGN CAPTIVITY

Overcrowded and ancient as they are, British prisons would rank respectably high in any Good Jails Guide compiled for the information of the cosmopolitan convict. At least in principle they accept the proposition that criminals are sent to prison as a punishment rather than for punishment, and that gratuitous harsh treatment is not an acceptable means of promoting a policy of deterrence. Prisons reflect the attitudes of the societies around them, and conditions that may appear rugged but humane to an Asian peasant may well seem intolerably rigorous to a western tourist who has been foolish enough to dabble in drugs. To the shared physical hardship is added the isolation of unfamiliarity with language and customs, and separation from friends and family. In some countries so little regard is paid to prisoners' rights that they are in constant danger of physical violence or untreated illness.

The simple individual remedy, of course, is not to get into trouble. But as international travel becomes easier the number of criminals who land themselves in prisons far from home is likely to increase. Such cases and the sympathy they sometimes arouse can become a significant irritant to good relations between countries, and

to each transfer. A homeland asking for repatriation will have to make clear in advance the conditions on which it is ready to take the prisoner (including what it means to do about remission, parole, and so on). In agreeing to the transfer the sentencing country will accept these terms. Difficulties would arise if one country considered that the prisoner had discharged his debt to society, while the other regarded him as liable to further penalties. There is room for friction here, but also for compromise.

For many prisoners, including some of the most harshly treated, the convention will be irrelevant – for those held for offences that are not regarded as offences at all at home, for instance and those held without trial, like Mr Kenneth Carmichael, held in Saudi Arabia for debt since 1981. The 16 countries which have signed do not include several where the problem is particularly acute, though the Home Secretary plans to seek bilateral agreements with others. But the convention is a step towards the creation of an international presumption that offenders abroad should not have the penalties imposed by the courts multiplied by the isolation and even hazards of captivity far from home.

With respect, Sir, Your leader, "Rethink on the Rhine" (August 17) does the subject less than justice. To discuss the defence of the central region of Allied Command Europe without a mention of US forces, either in place or as reinforcements, or of the Allied air forces makes the analysis somewhat incomplete.

Neither is justice done to the major contribution made by the Federal Republic to the defence of the region, namely 12 well-equipped divisions and, after mobilization, a Territorial Army of 500,000.

It is true, however, that there has been a reluctance by West Germany to flex the military and political muscles concomitant with her economic power and geographic location. But it has to be said that where this characteristic has been apparent it has been welcomed, not least by those who have painful memories of the exercise of German military power.

Nonetheless, times are changing and the post-1945 generations of West Germans are very active in ensuring that proper weight is given to West German views and interests in negotiations and discussions.

I am not sure that the suggested ceding of command of Northern Army Group would, per se, expand the authority and influence of the Bundeswehr. A German officer already is the overall Nato commander of the air and land forces of the central region. But in any event it is not his job to represent the Bundeswehr, no more than it is the job of the commander, Northern Army Group, to represent British interests.

National interests are best looked after by the ambassadors and national military representatives established in Brussels for that very purpose.

Yours faithfully,

JAMES FERGUSON,
13 Blackhouse Hill,
Hythe,
Kent.
August 19.

scientific evidence. No such evidence relevant to the North Atlantic was produced in support of the resolution in February, 1983, referred to by Mr McTaggart. A further meeting of the NEA was held in May, after the London Convention meeting, to examine the scientific evidence relating to the use of this site; this again concluded that the objections to its use were without foundation.

With respect, Sir, a detailed scientific controversy cannot be conducted satisfactorily in the correspondence columns of *The Times*.

The international experts who have taken part in these assessments have published their methods and arguments in full. Mr McTaggart should equally publish his criticisms in detail so that they can be evaluated point by point.

We would, of course, reconsider our policy if fresh evidence pointed to significant hazard arising from these disposal operations

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THE TIMES
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 Telephone 01-837 1234

STOCK EXCHANGES

FT Index: 717.4 up 0.8
 FT Gilt: 79.71 up 0.8
 FT All Shares: 456.14 up 1.62
 Bargains: 19.701
 Datastream US\$ Leaders
 Index: 100 up 0.73
 New York: Dow Jones
 Average (latest): 1181.71
 down 2.54
 Tokyo: Nikkei Dow Jones
 Index 914.91 down 4.27
 Hongkong: Hang Seng
 Index 581.91 down 0.27
 Amsterdam 146.8 down 2.9
 Sydney: ASX Index 697.7
 down 10.7
 Frankfurt: Commerzbank
 Index 933.30 down 3.20
 Brussels: General Index
 133.45 down 0.42
 Paris: GAC Index 137.7 up
 0.3
 Zurich: SKA General Index
 285.2 down 0.5

CURRENCIES

LONDON CLOSE
 Sterling \$1.5080 down 1.1
 cents
 Index 84.7 down 0.8
 DM 3.9750
 FFr 11.9750
 Yen 368.50
 Dollar
 Index 127.6 up 0.1
 DM 2.8285
NEW YORK LATEST
 Sterling \$1.5030
INTERNATIONAL
 ECUS 0.570857
 SDRE 0.692933

INTEREST RATES

Domestic rates:
 Bank base rates 9%
 Finance houses base rates 10
 Discount market loans week
 fixed 9%
 3 month interbank 9%
 Euro-currency rates:
 3 month dollar 9%
 3 month DM 5%
 3 month Ff 15-14%
US rates:
 Bank prime rate 11.00
 Fed funds 9%
 Treasury long bond 103%
 103%
ECIF Fixed Rate: Sterling
 Export Finance Scheme IV
 Average reference rate for
 interest period July 6 to August
 2, 1983 inclusive: 9.989 per
 cent.

GOLD

London fixed (per ounce):
 am \$422.50 pm \$423.26
 close \$423.50 £280-280.76
 unchanged
 New York latest: \$423.25
 Krugerrand (per coin):
 \$436-437.50 (£289-290)
 Sovereigns (new):
 \$99.75-100.75 (£68-66.75)
 *Excludes VAT

TODAY

Interim Martin Black, L. M.
 Ericsson, Exeter Building and
 Construction, Investment Trust
 of Guernsey, Miss World
 Group, Scottish Northern
 Invest, Wagon Finance, Ward
 Holdings, Highgate & Job,
 Raybeck, Economic statistics: None
 announced.

ANNUAL MEETINGS

Davenport Knitwear, Allen
 House, Newark Street, Liverpool (11.30)
 Lennon Group, Lord Daresbury
 Hotel, Daresbury, Warrington,
 Cheshire (noo) Rotaprint,
 Cumberland Road, off Honey-
 pot Lane, NW8 (11.30)
 Segomana Group, 185 St
 Vincent Street, Glasgow
 (12.00)

Trade figures hit sterling

Sterling was under sporadic
 pressure in the foreign exchange
 markets yesterday because of
 the poor July trade figures and
 recent gloomy forecasts for the
 economy.

Market trading was thin as
 sterling fell 1.1 cents against the
 dollar and closed at \$1.5080.
 Against the German mark, the
 pound fell below DM4, closing
 3.5 pfenning lower on the day at
 DM3.9750, and it lost 10
 cents against the French
 franc to FFr11.9750.

The pound's trade-weighted
 value against a basket of
 currencies ended the day 0.9
 lower at 84.7.

The dollar was on the
 sidelines after its volatile
 movements of recent weeks but
 ended fractionally higher
 against the mark at DM2.6365 -
 up 15 points.

● Louise International
 finance is raising a £m (575m
 £15m), seven-year Eurobond
 with a yield of 9 per cent.
 market sources have reported.
 The bond is priced at par.

Battle for games manufacturer is not over, says BPCC chief

Waddington beats off Maxwell as institutions switch allegiance

By Jonathan Clegg

An about-turn by three institutional shareholders yesterday switched an expected victory from Mr Robert Maxwell in his battle for control of John Waddington, the Monopoly games manufacturer.

The three institutions withdrew their acceptance of the £18m bid from Mr Maxwell's British Printing and Communication Corporation at the eleventh hour. News of the about-turn came as Mr Maxwell was ready to declare that he had received more than 50 per cent acceptances, and the bid was therefore unconditional.

The three institutions account for 5.5 per cent of Waddington's shares. This holding, together with the support already promised to the

Waddington board from holders of 46.2 per cent makes it impossible for Mr Maxwell to declare his offer unconditional.

The most significant change of heart came when the Norwich Union insurance group, which has 4.4 per cent stake, responded to a direct appeal from the Waddington chairman, Mr Victor Watson, and managing director Mr David Perry.

The other about-turns came from the Scottish Amicable life insurance company, which has about 0.9 per cent of the shares, and a smaller holder with 0.2

Scottish Amicable said last night that it had previously accepted the cash alternative which closed last week and cannot be re-opened. Shareholders who accept a takeover bid can withdraw before it is declared unconditional.

Mr Maxwell said: "I regret the withdrawal of acceptances which presumably is largely due to people who accepted the cash offer of 249.6p which they would receive in six weeks time if the offer goes unconditional. By withdrawing they can get a higher price in the market. It is possible that purchasers in the market will accept the BPCC offer."

But Klefawort, Benson, Waddington's advisers, said that it was merely a change of allegiance after a re-appraisal by the shareholders of the company's prospects.

Mr Maxwell added: "I have had several Waddington's shareholders complain that they had up to eight telephone calls from the company urging them to withdraw their acceptances. This borders on harassment."

Mr Maxwell's advisers will now lobby hard to get some of the pro-Waddington board shareholders to change their minds.

Klefawort said that Mr Maxwell had no new information to give shareholders, he could not make a new offer under the Takeover Panel's rules and the cash offer had already closed.

But the firm admitted that although the battle had "taken a fundamental turn", the fight was not yet over.

Waddington has enjoyed the support of two big shareholders, British Assurance and M&G, which account for about a fifth of the shares.

Brazil's original multi-billion dollar rescue package fell apart because it was too small and Brazil was unable to meet conditions imposed by the International Monetary Fund. Bankers are now working on the second phase. But even if events proceed smoothly in the next few months, it is far from clear who is going to do the bidding out this time.

Then, however, the real problems start. How to satisfy Brazil's external financing needs of about \$2.6bn for the rest of this year and £3.9bn next year?

Commercial bankers are adamant that they cannot fork out the whole £6.6bn and the popular assumption is that governments/official agencies will chip in at least £1.9bn. Quite who these governments/official agencies are remains a mystery.

Crippling Debts

As for the commercial banks, those with large exposures to Brazil may feel there is no alternative to pumping in large sums.

But will they be able to persuade their smaller brethren to contribute to what could be one of the biggest syndicated loans ever, for a country in Brazil's position?

Even the bullying of the IMF and central banks may not be sufficient.

Interest payments on its huge debts are crippling Brazil and any amount of internal economic adjustment is not going to reduce that burden.

Barring another historic loosening of the monetary reins by the Federal Reserve to bring down interest rates, along the lines of its action last summer when Mexico was testing on the brink, both banks and governments may be forced to consider much more painful and radical measures.

Banks may have to consider such taboo options as rescheduling interest or redefining it in the form of trade credits.

Governments, for their part, will have to recognise that the banks cannot do it all on their own. And if this lends greater urgency to the search for long-term solutions to the debt crisis, so much the better.

Rescue deal for Capper-Neill

By Michael Prest


Capper resigns with most of his board

holders' funds stood at just £6m, including a property revaluation of £3.7m, while borrowings were £27.4m. Turnover fell from £108 to £85.4m.

Under the reconstruction,

Consolidated Contractors

(CCC) a company of Lebanese

origins based in Athens, will

pay £4.13m to buy 41.3m new

shares in Capper-Neill at par.

This will give them a 58.9 per

cent share in Capper.

CCC will also have an option for 10 years to buy another 8.77m shares at par, and has agreed to make a £1.87m secured loan to Capper-Neill, bringing its total injection to £6m.

The balance sheet will also be strengthened by the banks converting £7m of the existing overdraft into 7m redeemable preference shares of £1 each. These will not carry a dividend for the first two years but will have coupons of 6 per cent in the third and fourth years and 10 per cent in later years.

The banks have undertaken to convert £1.4m of the overdraft into a £1.4m secured loan over 10 years.

Capper-Neill has big construction interests in the Middle East and it is understood that disagreements over the company's tie to contracts and to the amount from these contracts led to some of the extraordinary debts.

CCC is a major construction

firm in the Middle East, and has

won contracts in Saudi Arabia

and the Gulf.

BSR back in profit as debts decline

By Andrew Corrales

BSR International, the audio, electronics and kitchenware group, is back in profit at the interim stage after its make-or-break capital reconstruction this year.

Mr Bill Wyllie, chairman, who masterminded the £20m cash call which made the refinancing possible, yesterday reported pretax profits of £6.2m for the six months ending June 30, against losses of £1.8m at the same stage last year and losses of £1.5m for 1982.

Mr Wyllie said at BSR's new corporate headquarters in Hongkong that he is looking for

a further significant improvement in profits during the second half of the year. An indication of the board's confidence in progress is the promise to recommend payment of a final dividend of at least 1.5p this year.

The refinancing helped cut short-term debt from £42m to £17.5m.

An important part of the group's strategy in Britain is to switch production to new growth areas.

Mr Wyllie said that there will be further rationalization and divestment of activities within the group, but no redundancies are planned in Britain.

BSR's shares rose by 10p to

short-term debt from £42m to £17.5m.

Surge in leading shares

WALL STREET

Dupont fell 1/8 to 52; Lockheed fell 3 5/8 to 103.

General Dynamics fell 2 5/8 to 67 3/8; Delta Air Lines fell 1/8 to 30 and Minnesota Mining fell 1/8 to 79.

In the broader market, declining issues were ahead of gainers about four to three.

International Business Machines 1 1/8 to 115 3/8; General Electric fell 1/2 to 47; General Motors fell 1/8 to 66 3/4; and

Exxon at 34 5/8 was unchanged; Allied Corporation at 50 was up 1/8.

Trade Development Bank Holding S.A.

Luxembourg

Announcement to Shareholders

Approval was given at the General Meeting of Shareholders of Trade Development Bank Holding S.A. ("TDBH") held on August 25, 1983 for all items on the agenda, including a distribution - for each 100 TDBH shares outstanding - of a dividend consisting of US\$ 800 in cash, 27* American Express Company ("Amexco") common shares, and 10 warrants to purchase 20* Amexco common shares at US\$ 27.50 per share.

The following should be considered by shareholders who have TDBH shares in bearer form:

1. As from the distribution date (August 29, 1983) each shareholder should present coupons 12, 13 and 14 of his TDBH shares either directly to one of the paying agents mentioned herebelow, or request his own bank to do so on his behalf. Coupons 12 will be exchanged for cash in US\$, coupons 13 for Amexco common shares, and coupons 14 for Amexco warrants.

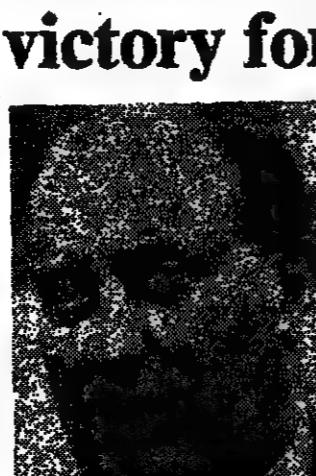
2. Upon presentation of coupons 13 and 14 the paying agents will acknowledge to the shareholder his right to the appropriate number of shares and warrants, and, in accordance with his instructions, have the certificates made out, registered, and delivered.

3. There will be no delivery of fractional shares or warrants. Fractional rights will be paid in cash at the market value of the shares and warrants as of the date of presentation of the coupons.

The distribution will continue until October 28, 1983. After October 28, 1983, the Company will sell any shares and warrants of American Express Company not distributed due to non-presentation of coupons 13 and 14, and will hold the US dollar proceeds of such sale for any payment against future presentation of coupons 13 and 14. Presentation of coupons 12, 13 and 14 as outlined hereabove should be made to any of the paying agents listed below:

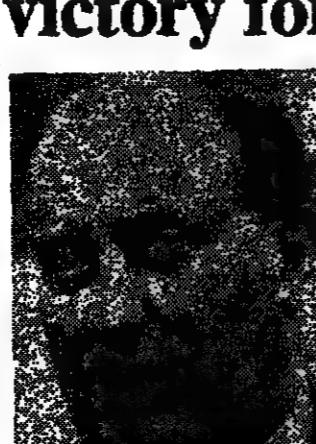
Manufacturers Hanover Limited, 8 Princes Street, London WC2P 2EN
 Banque Internationale à Luxembourg S.A., 2 Boulevard Royal, Luxembourg
 Manufacturers Hanover Bank Belgium, 13, rue de Ligne, 1000 Brussels
 Manufacturers Hanover Trust Company, Bockenheimer Landstrasse 51/53, Frankfurt
 Trade Development Bank, 30 Monument Street, London EC3R 8LH
 Trade Development Bank (Luxembourg) S.A., 34 avenue de la Porte Neuve, Luxembourg

*calculated after the effect of the 3 for 2 stock split of 10th August 1983



Sir Walter: progress in components talks

Sizewell victory for industry

By David Young
Energy Correspondent


British industry has responded to a challenge from the nuclear power programme to take orders worth millions of pounds from foreign companies which were originally in line to supply equipment for the Sizewell nuclear power station in Suffolk.

After talks with the Central

Electricity Generating Board, British suppliers have met specification requirements which means that apart from several million pounds worth of specialized equipment most of the overall estimated cost of £1.147m will be spent in

Britain.

Traditionally the electricity industry, the NCB's biggest customer, accepts annual price rises fixed at the inflation rate, at present 4.2 per cent.

It also agrees to guarantee the price paid for the first 60 million tonnes it buys and pays a different rate for consumption above that level. In future the level taken at guaranteed prices will be lower.

COMPANY NEWS
IN BRIEF

Hamburger Brooks
Year to 31.5.83.
Pre-tax profit £31,000 loss £33,000.
Stated earnings 5.63p (loss 2.55p).
Turnover £4.4m (24.4m).
Net dividend none.

Sugar Hall's
Pre-tax
Stated
Turnover
Net int
Share

Rohan Park (Irish currency)
Half-year to 30.6.83.
Pre-tax profit £1.1m (£1.9m).
Stated earnings 10.67p (18.88p).
Turnover £1.5m (£1.03m).
Net interim dividend 5.65p (same).

New Danion Oil Trust
Half-year to 31.7.83.
Attributable profit £7,904 (£32,916).
Stated earnings 0.08p (0.33p).

J. Sawills Gordon Group
Year to 30.4.83.
Pre-tax profit £566,000 (£1.1m).
Stated earnings 2.9p (3.1p).
Turnover £1.8m (£1.9m).
Net dividend 3.82p (3.22p).
Share price 61p up 5p. Yield 7.5%.

Resou Year ic
Pre-tax
Stated
Turnov Net div
Share

Queens Hotel Houses
Nine months to 10.7.83.
Pre-tax profit 2.16m (£1.1m).
Stated earnings 1.5p (1.5p).
Net interim dividend 0.865p.
Share price 35.5p unchanged.
Yield 5.4%.

Yorkshire Chemicals
Half-year to 30.6.83.
Pre-tax profit £664,000 (loss
£376,000).
Turnover £13.8m (£10m).
Net interim dividend None.
Share price 79p down 5p.
Yield 1.3%.

Silverthorne Group
Half-year to 27.7.83.
Pre-tax profit £125,000 (£83,000).
Stated earnings 3.31p (3.1p).
Turnover £2.8m (£1.8m).
Net interim dividend 0.7p (same).
Share price 30p. Yield 3.3%.
Dividend payable 23.8.83.

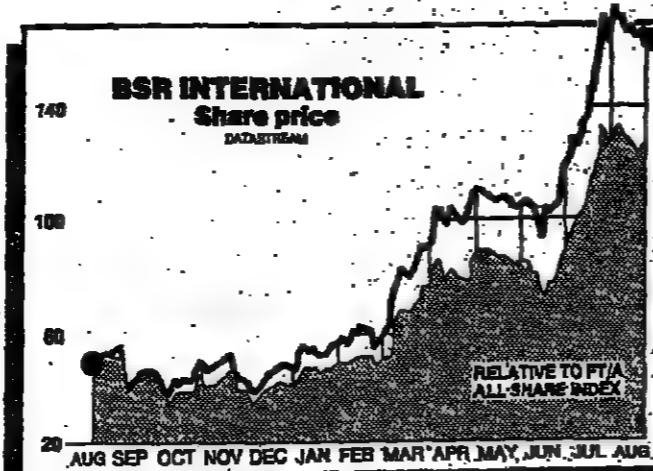
Scottish Investment Trust
Nine months to 31.7.83.
Pre-tax profit 55m (£5.2m).
Turnover 27.2m (£5.2m).
Share price 181p down 1p. Yield 3.5%.

BBA Group
Half-year to 30.6.83.
Pre-tax profit £2.8m (£3.1m).
Stated earnings 1.42p (1.61p).
Turnover 27.7m (£7.6m).
Net interim dividend 0.84p (same).
Share price 38p down 1p. Yield 6.4%.

● UBM has reiterated its rejection of the terms of Norcross's £64m bid in response to Wednesday's official offer document for the builders' merchanting group. UBM's defense document is likely to dismiss Norcross's criticism of potential problems as meaningless in the light of the expected recovery this year. A profit forecast is unlikely at this stage, but could be made if Norcross increases its offer.

INVESTORS' NOTEBOOK • edited by Michael Prest

Capper-Neill welcomes CCC strength



BSR Int

BSR International
Half-year to 30.6.83.
Pre-tax profit 25.2m (£1.8m).
Stated earnings 3p (1.7p loss).
Turnover £1.1m (£102.2m).
Net interim dividend 0.5p (0.1p).
Share price 178p up 10p.

Those investors who stayed with BSR International during its make-or-break capital reconstruction this year can look forward at last to a resumption of dividends and profits.

Yesterday the shares rose 10p to 178p on news that BSR had returned pre-tax profit of £5.2m

for the six months to June 30, against losses of £1.8m at the same stage last year. The share price was further strengthened by the drop in short-term debt from £42m to £2.8m, and in total group debt from £107m to £78m.

The British side should return trading profits by the end of the year after interim losses of £300,000 and total losses last year of £1.5m.

Investors must now look for growth from BSR's high technology, audio, computer and electronics business in the Far East and US to make up for the lack of British profits.

The Bath and Portland Group

The Bath and Portland Group
Half-year to 30.4.83.
Pre-tax profit £163,000 (£1.8m).
Stated earnings 0.34p (4.3%).
Turnover £42m (£41.2m).
Net interim dividend 2.5p (2.5p).
Share price 114p up 11p.
Dividend payable 20.9.83.

Neill would have been hard-pressed to continue trading.

For the moment, therefore, shareholders and employees can rest a little easier. Doubtless the banks, still smarting from criticism about their handling of Stone Plat, will feel that they have done their bit to keep an important part of British industry alive. It may well be that there was little choice, given the disastrous composition of the balance sheet, but they should be allowed credit for helping to bail Capper-Neill out.

What the long term holds, however, remains obscure. Capper-Neill says that CCC is expanding its mechanical construction operations, so there will presumably be a part for Capper-Neill to play in that.

But in the first of this year civil engineering has turned in a loss of more than £15m, dragging group profits down to just £163,000, with a loss of at least another £500,000 to come in the second half as contracts are run off.

But the major questions are about the future of the process plant engineering, an important and prestigious part of the company, and of the manufacturing side.

Bath and Portland Group said yesterday that it was disposing of its civil engineering interests which were once a main component of the company's total turnover.

Only a few years ago the civil engineering companies were building highways and power stations around the world under the Marles Ridgway name and contributing half the company's total turnover.

But in the first of this year civil engineering has turned in a loss of more than £15m, dragging group profits down to just £163,000, with a loss of at least another £500,000 to come in the second half as contracts are run off.

COMMODITIES

LONDON METAL EXCHANGE
Official Notices
Importers in London
Silver in prime per troy ounce

COPPER HIGH GRADE
Cash
Three months
1099.80-1102.00
7200

TOP GRADE CATHODE
Cash
Three months
1041.00-1041.80
1173.00-1174.00
4,480

TOP GRADE
TIN STANDARD
Cash
Three months
840-845
700

HIGH GRADE
Cash
Three months
820-840
500

LONDON GOLD FUTURES MARKET
100g & 50g DAY

LEADS
Cash
Three months
281.40-282.00
1840
1000

LONDON INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL
Metal Weight Financial Services Ltd.
1980-81
1977-78
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APPOINTMENTS

Change at Midland

Midland Bank: Mr Hugh O'Brien, group treasurer; Thomas Cook, is to be assistant general manager (financing operations).

The British Overseas and Commonwealth Banks' Association: Mr Peter Waller, a general manager of Standard Chartered Bank, has been elected deputy chairman. Mr G. T. Watson has been appointed honorary secretary.

Sun Alliance Insurance Group: Mr J. Rochelle, manager, computer department, is to be group computer manager of management services and planning division. Mr E. G. Coward is now group commercial underwriting manager with responsibility for home division, commercial underwriting and overseas division international underwriting.

Hawker Siddeley Group: Mr S. D. Goward has joined the board of Brook Control Gear as director and general manager. Mr J. L. Fleming has been appointed to the board of Crompton Instruments (South East Asia), as director and general manager.

Supra Sureparts: Mr A. A. Long has become managing director.

Enskilda Securities: Mr William Tyne is joining the board with special responsibility for the company's capital markets activities in the US. He will be based in London.

WANTADORES LTD, 31-41 BURGESS ST, LONDON EC1A 2AS. Tel: 01-580 74716. S. H. S. MARKETING LTD, 100-11 BURGESS ST, LONDON EC1A 2AS. Tel: 01-580 74716. S. H. S. FRANCE, 70, AVENUE DES FRANCAIS, 75008 PARIS. Tel: 01-580 74716.

Base Lending Rates

	1983	1982
ABN Bank	9%	9%
Barclays	9%	9%
BCCI	9%	9%
Citibank Savings	11%	10%
Consolidated Cards	9%	9%
C. Hoare & Co	9%	9%
Lloyds Bank	9%	9%
Midland Bank	9%	9%
Nat Westminster	9%	9%
TSB	9%	9%
Williams & Glyn's	9%	9%

† Minimum rates.

‡ 7 day deposit on terms of under £10,000, 9% interest up to £10,000, 10% interest up to £20,000, 11% interest up to £30,000 and over.

How the building societies have forgotten about profitability

BUILDING SOCIETY ADVERTISING 1981/82

(£'000s as measured by Meal, 'broad' rate card)

	Spent	1981 Rank	£'000s	Spent	1982 Rank	£'000s
Halifax	4625	2	53	6808	1	65
Abbey National	4674	1	51	5298	2	55
Leeds Permanent	3579	3	44	4850	3	50
Barclays & Bingley	2504	6	35	4481	4	30
Northwide	2263	7	34	3755	5	25
Anglia	1614	7	34	2753	6	25
Woodwich	2065	4	57	2480	7	16
Leicester	775	9	—	1795	8	17
Alliance	499	12	—	1888	9	19
Provincial	1190	6	36	1548	10	20

On all the areas of business which have discovered Marketing in recent years, few have embraced it with more enthusiasm than the building societies.

Heavy television advertising campaigns, wave after wave of "new products" in the form of higher-interest accounts aimed at different groups of savers, and the use of popular children's characters such as Mickey Mouse and Paddington Bear all testify to the eagerness with which the hitherto staid and slow societies have taken on board the lessons of the corn flake and soap powder companies.

Despite recent problems, the change of approach and huge increase in marketing expenditure (£24m on advertising last year, compared with £4m ten years ago) seems at first sight to have been amply justified. Last year the building societies recorded the highest net receipts in their history and all but one of the top ten societies, which tend to be the biggest spenders, increased their assets by 17 per cent or more.

"Perhaps that suggests that societies' marketing strategies were highly successful," says one building society executive, Mr Richard Lacy, and most societies might agree. "I believe that is a very naive view of our industry's performance," he adds.

"Many societies seem to me to have spent much of the last two years raising extra funds at the highest cost, advertising premium-rate accounts and transferring a huge volume of profitable share account funds. This, to me, is not carefully planned marketing – it is the strategy of growth at all costs."

Mr Lacy is not against building societies spending heavily on advertising and marketing. Indeed, as general manager in charge of marketing at the Leicester Building Society, he has spent as much as most on television commercials and launch of new schemes, most notably the Leicesterscard and a tie-up with National Girobank that has given the society 20,000 new Post Office outlets. The Leicester was the 10th biggest society last year, with assets of £2,060m.

His concern is that most societies have lost sight of the need for profitability, the race for growth and market share. In this, they are no different from some consumer marketing

This has been achieved by



On the road: touring building society in TV commercial

concentrating the society's of their business from share marketing efforts on increasing share accounts and the next 11 only 50 per cent. Three years ago, nearly 80 per cent of the industry's funds was held in share accounts.

The marketing challenge for the Leicester was to make its share account attractive to investors, despite the fact that every other building society was offering the same rate of interest and that other societies had more branches. The answer to the first problem was the Leicesterscard – a discount available to share account

holders – and the other was the link-up with National Girobank.

The Leicesterscard was devised by Mr Lacy and his newly-appointed advertising agency, Wight Collins Rutherford Scott.

According to Mr Robin Wight, the agency chairman: "Research showed us that there was no great difference in the minds of the public between the Leicester and other societies, so we developed the Leicesterscard as a 'separator', to distinguish

The Leicesterscard offers share account holders cheque book accounts and personal loans, together with discounts on a wide range of goods and services.

The launch, in February last year, received great publicity even before the first advertising – positioning the Leicester as the "Mortester" – began. "In the space of 10 months, we received applications for 125,000 Leicesterscards," says Mr Lacy. "We have now had more than 200,000 and by the end of the year it will be 300,000."

In the month after the launch, the Leicester opened a record number of accounts and the growth has continued.

Yet the fact remains that the other big societies drew in deposits faster last year by their cruder method of offering interest premiums.

The Leicester now seems likely to hedge its bets and follow the other societies' tactics in addition to its own marketing efforts.

The five biggest societies are to offer a 14 per cent differential over basic share rate from September 1, and Mr Lacy believes that Leicester has at least built a stronger springboard from which to challenge them on their own terms. An announcement is possible within the week.

DEREK CROUCH

Interim Report for the Half Year to 30th June, 1983

	1983 First six months £'000's	1982 First six months £'000's	Year £'000's
Turnover	28,825	28,789	59,805
Earnings before Tax and Interest	857	1,345	2,613
Interest Payable	680	834	1,739
Earnings before Tax Charges and Taxation	177	414	874
Dividends	285	210	306
Earnings per Share	2.29p	1.60p	5.5p

Opencast mining in the UK is still profitable, but at a reduced level due principally to the continuing restrictions being placed on output over and above contractual amounts.

In the USA, coal markets are also suffering from the world surplus and Power Inc. the company set up in the USA five years ago, is in financial difficulties.

Derek Crouch has now taken complete control of Power Inc. with effect from 18th July by buying out, for a nominal sum, the 40% minority interest held by the two American fuel distribution firms who partnered Derek Crouch in setting up the venture in 1978. The principal asset of Power Inc. is some 20,000 acres of coal-bearing land in central Pennsylvania with reserves estimated to be 200 million tons of coal and 100 million tons of coal for mining. A 21.75m tonnage plant was commissioned by Power Inc. last year to upgrade the quality of the output and open the way to improved outlets and prices and as a result of the improvement of quality Power Inc. has maintained its share of a highly competitive market.

The Board believes that, although the coal market in the USA, as in other countries, is soft at the moment, the longer term prospects are good. Further, the market required to develop its mining activities and the other opportunities available were unable to go along this road; as a result they agreed to sell their interests in Power Inc. to Derek Crouch. They will, however, continue to act as selling agents for Power Inc. although not on an exclusive basis. The Board believes that the consolidation of Derek Crouch's USA interest will bring benefits in the longer term.

On the construction side, the Company is continuing its search for more opportunities in private development, reducing its dependence on the public sector. Claims for final accounts are still proving extremely difficult to progress and finalise. Claims are only taken into account when signed.

As yet, there are no signs of an upturn in the construction industry.

The Directors of Derek Crouch intend to pay a maintained interim dividend of 1.60p which will be payable on 28th October, 1983.

DEREK CROUCH PLC

Head Office: Peterborough PE6 7UW

Telephone:

Peterborough (0733) 222341 Telex: 32128

BSR

The Technology Company

SUMMARY OF INTERIM RESULTS

First Six Months
(Unaudited)

1983	1982
Turnover	£m
121.1	102.2
Operating Profit	£m
8.6	3.0
Profit before Taxation	£m
6.2	(1.8)
Profit after Taxation	£m
4.1	(2.0)
Earnings per Share	p
3.0p	(1.7)p

HIGHLIGHTS OF FIRST SIX MONTHS

- Group Restructuring well advanced opening the way to a strong turnaround in trading performance
- Group Sales up 19% over first half of 1982
- Successful Rights Issue and placement of new shares in April raised £24.2m. net of expenses
- Balance Sheet strengthened during the half year
- Group has diversified further from former traditional business and is now predominantly engaged in the development and manufacturing of high technology electronic components
- Continuing improvement and strong profit growth forecast for second half
- Restoration of interim Dividend
- Tax residence of parent company successfully moved to Hong Kong

BSR INTERNATIONAL PLC

To obtain copies of the full Interim report please write to: The Secretary, BSR International PLC, High Street, Wellington, Shropshire DY8 4PG, England

Britoil's first interim results – a successful period

Consolidated Profit and Loss Account
(Unaudited)

£ million

£ million</

Cricket: England rescued from early troubles after Tavar goes in second over and Gower is hit on the head

England's hopes are high as Botham and Randall come bouncing back

By John Woodcock
Cricket Correspondent

TRENT BRIDGE: England have scored 362 for seven against New Zealand.

England were extricated from their customary troubles by Botham and Randall when the fourth Cornhill Test started yesterday. Coming together at 169 for 5, they added 186 with a really splendid piece of bating. The effect on the balance of the match was devastating. At a quarter past three New Zealand must have been fancying their chances of winning it by close of play; they were on the way to losing.

Randall's 83 gave enormous local pleasure; universal pleasure in fact. What a wonderfully silent creature he is. He always comes bouncing back, laying his game and harbouring no grudges. Having dropped him from the Lord's Test, the selectors must have watched him yesterday, playing as well as I have ever seen him, with pleasure mixed with some embarrassment. He knows now that he will be needing his unusual kit again next winter.

Yet the best news of the day was Botham's return to his form of a couple of years ago. As at Lord's last week, when he took Somerset to the finals of the NatWest Trophy, he played with massive authority. There were three of those backhand sweeps I don't care for; but even they all went for four, one off a full toss from Bracewell, being flicked away like an angled backhand volley. Botham had batted 23 times for England since making his last 100 for them. Now the prodigal son returned. There can be much rejoicing at that.

For half its course, the day bore a close resemblance to the opening day of the third Test at Lord's. Then, too, England batted first, and it was Gower again who gave the innings early confidence it had. Not only that. Whereas at Lord's he was badly missed

when 21, yesterday Lees put him down at the wicket, a straightforward catch, when he was 15. The outfield, artificially green, kept the shine on the ball until Botham and Randall removed it; the pitch, almost unnaturally brown and damp to start with, allowed it to turn a little.

In the end the difference from Lord's was that Randall and not Taylor came in at No. 7. This was because England had left out Thomas, a disappointment not so much because it reduced their bowling depth but because Thomas will not be one of the bowlers. The case for preferring Thomas to Cowans seems scarcely to have arisen in the selectors' minds, though Thomas would have made the more interesting choice.

Tavar was out to the last ball of the second over, superbly caught at third slip by Cairns, one-handed and diving to his left. England, against the ropes, were kept there when a few balls later Gower ducked into a bouncer from Hadlee. He took his eye off the ball and so broke the golden rule. Peter May said he thought the best player of the bouncer he had ever seen was Reg Simpson, who was a swaver, not a ducker. Gower, bare-headed when he was hit, spurned with fine disdain the

Scorecard

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2	Botham 100 not out
3	Botham 100 not out
4	Gower 83
5	Lees 15
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Latest row keeps alive America's Cup's capacity to shock

American 'hot air' looks like blowing keel controversy into the law courts

From David Miller, Newport, Rhode Island

One of the most sustained campaigns of attempted rule manipulation – or as some would call it, cheating – in the history of sport is now likely to end up in the law courts. It has for months been predicted that the 1983 America's Cup would be decided by lawyers on land rather than yachtsmen on the water – and so it looks like turning out.

Not since the body-line series of the 1930's, when Douglas Jardine used Harold Larwood to intimidate Don Bradman, have the British been involved in a competition of such overt hostility, though now they are aligned with the Australians against the devious shore-based, shifting tactics of the New York Yacht Club, whose behaviour has been roundly condemned by the *Boston Globe* and *New York Times*. Yet, with millions of dollars at stake in seeking to retain the trophy in home Newport Waters, the NYYC seemingly cannot be calmed, even by their own countrymen, into suspending their committee-room hostilities.

The truth of the matter, not hitherto properly clarified in the controversy, is that the NYYC and the US Yacht Racing Union are totally out of order – within the Conditions of Racing, which they themselves drew up by mutual agreement with the seven challenging foreign syndicates – in their attempt unilaterally to have Australia II and the recently modified Victory '83 declared illegal under 12-metre rating regulations.

Frank Kembell, chairman of the challenge committee of the Royal Burnham YC, through which Victory '83 is entered, was one of those who helped draft the Conditions for both the challengers' elimination series and the America's Cup proper. Arriving here yesterday, Kembell was quite emphatic that NYYC protests are so much hot air, and completely invalid. Furthermore, Kembell adds: "If Australia II were to win the elimination final next week and subsequently be declared illegal, Victory '83 would only step in as reserve contender against the defending American boat over the dead body."

Under Condition 20 in the elimi-

nation series and Condition 22 of the match-proper, the rules are absolutely clear on four points. Firstly, the measurer is bound by the rule interpretation originally applied by the measurement committee in any remeasurement because of an alleged change.

Secondly, in the event of a remeasurement, if the measurer is unable to reconcile the change, he must refer the matter back to the committee.

Thirdly, the findings of the measuring committee are final. Lastly, in the event of conflict between these and other conditions, such as International Yacht Racing Union Rules, these conditions shall be operative. All this was mutually negotiated with the NYYC.

Four days ago the NYYC, having been exposed in their attempt to purchase the Australia II design from the Dutch yard where it was tank-tested, then attempted to discredit Victory '83. When Peter de Savary's yacht fitted wings to its keel, easily detachable, unlike those of Australia II, Mark Vinbury, the NYYC-nominated member of the measurement committee, was invited to inspect the modification. He verbally approved it, but within two hours broke confidence by suggesting to the USYRU that the modification was illegal. The USYRU immediately formally protested to Victory '83.

In a strong worded reply, Bill Ritchie, president of Royal Burnham, has stated that the USYRU has no standing or authority in the matter; that Royal Burnham, not Victory '83, is the British challenging authority; that Victory '83 has strictly complied with the rating rules; that both defenders and challengers had agreed on the Conditions, in which the measurement committee's decision is final; and that the matter is therefore closed.

Part of the complication, and the supposed loophole seen by the NYYC,

arises out of the existence of the two sets of Conditions: one for the elimination series and one for the match-proper. But they vary only in relation to the number of boats, never on matters of principle. Because the NYYC accepted the original measure-

ment of all defenders and challengers, it conveys the implicit acceptance that the measurement committee shall be the same for both elimination series and match-proper, namely: Vinbury (representing the NYYC), John Savage (representing Royal Sydney YS) and the mutually agreed IYRU representative, the widely-respected Tony Wattie.

The behaviour of the NYYC has been quixotic since the Victory challenge was made three years ago. When de Savary purchased, as pace-maker, Australia I, the unsuccessful Alan Bond challenger of 1980, Ed Dubois, designer of the first and later-abandoned Victory, consulted Johan Valentijn, Australia I's designer. The NYYC immediately protested that Valentijn was a foreigner. Royal Burnham politely apologised and submitted affidavits which the NYYC accepted. Six weeks later Valentijn was given US citizenship and started designing the new Liberty, currently the favourite to defend the Cup next month.

Liberty's helmsman is Denis Conner, successful defender with Freedom in 1980. "He's gone mad," says de Savary, and even Conner's United States rivals on Courageous and Defender concede he is allowing anxiety to push him to extremes of technical sensitivity.

Conner's voice has been regularly picked up on short-wave radio out on the water during the United States trials, with comments, addressed to the NYYC committee boat, like: "In the interests of defending the Cup, we request permission to change our mainsail." The word among other crews along the waterfront here is that the Liberty syndicate "are 100 per cent sure they will not have to race Australia II in the match-proper, and even if it wins the elimination series it will be declared illegal." But how, and by whom?

Strikingly, the NYYC cannot directly protest about Australia II until it has qualified as the challenger and enters a contractual situation with the Americans. That is why, up to now, the NYYC has tried to provoke the other challenging syndicates to make the

protest, while they were in competition. But all have declined, especially de Savary, resolutely supporting Australia II. Only the Italians have made a surreptitious, dog-leg move to exploit the situation to their advantage.

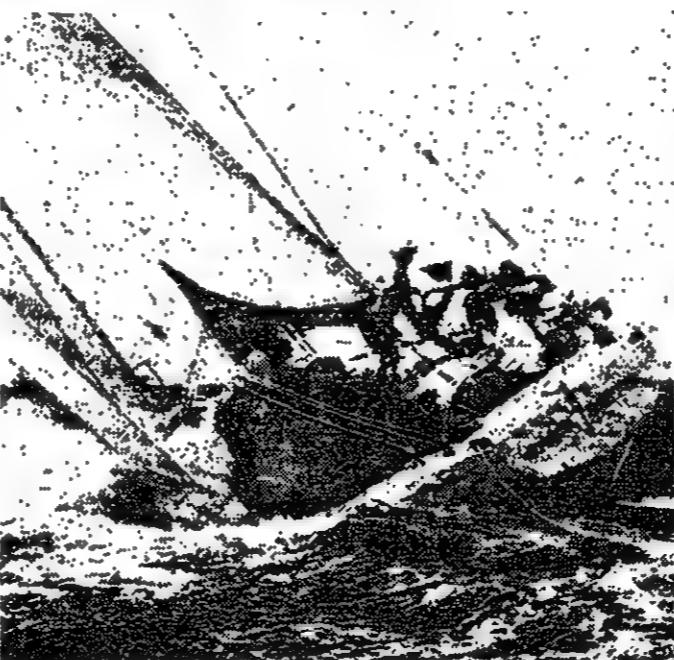
Bob McCullough, NYYC commander, has demanded that the keel controversy be referred to the IYRU, whose executive committee meets on August 30. Azzurri, backed by the Aga Khan and third in the elimination semi-finals, therefore proposed that the elimination final be postponed from August 28 to await the IYRU decision. (A double disqualification would let the Italians slip in as challengers. But their suggestion has been discreetly sidestepped).

It is expected that the IYRU will refer the matter to their keel-boat committee, and that a decision will be made in November, too late to affect the present series.

On the academic level, there is some room for argument. Olin Stephens, doyen of American designers, inquired about fins some years ago and was turned down within the rules. But 12-metres are what is termed a development class, in which changes are encouraged, and Stephens has come out in open support of the Ben Lexcen design. So has David Pedrick, designer of Defender. He has told the NYYC they "have a weak case". But Liberty's navigator, Halsey Herreshoff, is of the opinion that "what we have here is a bunch of apples and one orange".

The NYYC objection to Australia II's fins is that they increase the draught of the yacht when heeled. Yet the rules state that measurements are taken in still water, presumably when the keel is vertical. Apart from that, a heeling yacht does not rotate about a fixed point, because buoyancy, and therefore the water-line, alters with the heel.

Over two years ago, after a meeting to discuss the conditions, McCullough said to Kembell upon departure: "Let's keep it fun, Frank." Kembell is beginning to wonder just what the Americans meant.



Dame Pattie: provoked controversy in 1967

In the days of those majestic 'F' Class yachts, as anachronistic now as the huge mansions that edge Rhode Island Sound, a challenger – and they were all British – had to sail to Newport to prove the yacht's sea worthiness, which had the effect of ensuring that the challengers' built strong enough to cross a storm-tossed Atlantic, were then too heavy to compete against lighter-constructed defenders, designed and built with little more than Rhode Island Sound in mind.

Other rules have always insisted that foreign challengers must not only be designed and built in the challenging nation but be totally equipped with home-grown products, which has had the effect of denying foreigners the technical advances gained in America, particularly in the field of sailcloth and shape.

Even if a challenger had a yacht to match the Americans, they still had to overcome possibly the biggest hurdle of all: first an all-American protest committee and then the New York YC America's Cup Committee, whose rulings on all matters were final.

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For the last two years, in common with the Football League, the Alliance has awarded three points for home and away wins. More goals were scored under the system, but it was felt last season, despite the fact that the total of 1,440 goals was an increase of 171 on the previous year, that away teams were often playing for draws.

It is hoped the new system will encourage away teams to play more positively. It looks certain to help Enfield, who are widely recognized as the most entertaining team in the Alliance and began their defence of

the league title last week with a 3-0 win away to Telford United, the FA Trophy holders.

Under another innovation this season, Alliance teams are being allowed to use two substitutes instead of one. At Walsall have failed to buy their ground from the company which owns it and may fold up at the end of this season. The club's six-figure bid was said to be more than the ground was worth as a stadium but less than offers from developers, one of which has been accepted "with regret" by Automotive Products.

After winning the Southern Premier League, Leamington were told the ground was not good enough for them to be promoted to the Alliance Premier League. Then AP decided to sell after making a

HOCKEY

Struggling for consolation prizes

From Sydsey Friskin, Amsterdam

After a day's rest, the four teams from the British Isles will resume the struggle today for the consolation prizes in the European championship here. England and Scotland are among the four teams in contention for fifth to eighth places along with Belgium and France.

The British incentive is to prevent Belgium or France from finishing fifth. If they do, then will hear their appeal against a \$20,000 fine and one year's suspension from tournament play imposed by the Men's International Professional Tennis Council.

The council alleged Vilas accepted payment to appear at a tournament in Rotterdam in March.

TENNIS

McEnroe top seed in Open again

New York (Reuter) – John

McEnroe and Martina Navratilova

will be the top seeds in the singles

championships at the United States Open next week, it was announced here.

Jimmy Connors, the men's defending champion, has been seeded third and last year's runner-up Ivan Lendl (Cze) 4.

Connors and Martina will be

champions again on August 30 at the national tennis centre.

McEnroe is No 1 seed for the

third successive year. He won the

titles in 1979, 1980 and 1981, but lost to Lendl in the semi-finals last year.

Miss Navratilova is the top seed

for the second successive year. Last

year she was beaten by Pam Shriver in the quarter-finals. Chris Lloyd is

the defending champion.

McEnroe's seedings: 1. J. McEnroe; 2. I. Lendl (Cze); 3. J. Connors; 4. Y. Noah (FRA); 5. P. Shriver; 6. T. Lendl (Aus); 7. K. Curren (SA); 8. M. Carter (Ang); 9. J. Lloyd (GB); 10. G. M. Gilding (GB); 11. D. Denton (GB); 12. E. Fletcher; 13. V. Gerulaitis; 14. W. Scanlon.

Women's seedings: 1. M. Navratilova; 2. C. Lengyel; 3. A. Jaeger; 4. T. Austin; 5. P. Shriver; 6. T. Lendl (Aus); 7. K. Hinkley (WLF); 8. H. Mandlakova (Cze); 9. A. Tsvetkova (Bul); 10. S. G. Gornik (Sov); 11. B. Dore (GB); 12. V. Ruzek (Cze); 13. E. Cawley (Aus).

– JERICHO, New York (Reuter) – Guillermo Vilas has named Bill Talbert, one of America's foremost tennis personalities, as a selection to a three-man committee that will hear his appeal against a \$20,000 fine and one year's suspension from tournament play imposed by the Men's International Professional Tennis Council.

The council alleged Vilas accepted payment to appear at a tournament in Rotterdam in March.

JERICHO: Men's tournament for round 6. (Tues-Fri) 2-4, 6-7, 8-9. G. Vass (Ang) 11; T. Austin; 12; G. Carter (Ang) 12; G. Gornik (Sov) 12; M. Wunder (USA) 12; S. Watts (USA) 8-3, 7-5.

NON-LEAGUE FOOTBALL

New points system should help Enfield

By Paul Newman

moment, but he not only lost the

prize, but was blackballed from

the New York for his pains.

The Club Committee went through the motions of re-measuring the two yachts, but by then the ballast tanks in Defender had presumably been emptied for the yacht measured within a fraction of her original freeboard figure.

Other controversial protest decisions from the host nation over the years, particularly in the case of two Australian challengers, Dame Pattie in 1967 and Gretel II in 1970, eventually persuaded the New York YC America's Cup Committee to allow the Royal Yacht Club to relinquish chairmanship of the protest jury to the International Yacht Racing Union in 1974.

Challengers no longer have to sail to Newport on this summer.

Before this series, the America's Cup has always been a one-sided affair. Not only do the Americans have the advantage of racing in their own waters, but have always administered the rules, ensuring that they remain weighted in their favour.

After failing, an attempt was

made first to discredit the Australian and British members of the three man international measurement committee, after they reaffirmed that the measurement certificate of Australia was indeed valid. They pressured the 14 individual members of the IYRU keelboat technical committee to rule on the decision.

When these moves also began to look as if they may fail – the IYRU deliberates on the matter in London on August 30 – the NYYC turned its attention to the Netherlands Ship Model Basin, where Lexcen developed the design for both Australia II and Challenge 12.

The Melbourne 12-metre knocked out with France 3 and Advance in the early rounds.

A confession was sought about the extent of Dutch collaboration in the design of the yacht, with the aim of having Australia II disqualified for not being a wholly Australian design.

For the Americans, the Cup has become a point of national pride. While British and Australian syndicates which meet next week in the final elimination trials to decide a challenger, are campaigning to win a 100-guinea cup, the Americans are racing for country, continued self-respect and a tourist industry said to be worth \$140m to Newport this summer.

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Today's television and radio programmes

Edited by Peter Davall

BBC 1

8.00 *Good Morning*: Even without television, you can receive this service news, sport, weather and traffic conditions.

8.30 *Breakfast Time*: with Nick Ross and Debbie Ricci. Includes news bulletins at 7.45, 7.50, 7.55, 8.00 and 8.30; regional news at 8.45, 7.15, 7.45 and 8.15; Sport at 8.45, 7.15 and 8.15; *Keep it between 8.45 and 7.00*: TV spot (7.15-7.30); *Motorway reviews* (7.32 and 7.35); *Pop News* (between 7.45 and 7.50); *Food and cooking* (8.30-8.45).

9.00 *The Monkees*: comedy series starring the energetic pop group; 9.20 *Jackancy*: with *Instant Sunshine* (r); 9.30 *Wife the Wasp*: cartoon; 9.35 *Take Hart*: with Tony Hart (r); *Closedown* at 9.55.

10.30 *Cricket: The Fourth Test*: Live coverage of the second day's play between England and New Zealand at Trent Bridge. Introduced by Peter West. *Future* over the airwaves this afternoon at 1.45 (BBC1), and on BBC2 between 2.00 and 6.15, with highlights at 11.50.

1.05 *News After Noons*: with Vivien Creager and Richard Whitemore; 1.22 *Financial Report*. And subtitled news; 1.25 *Pingfingers*.

1.45 *Cricket: The Fourth Test*: More over the airwaves from Trent Bridge on the second day's play. Further live coverage can be seen this afternoon on BBC2 (see 2.00 entry).

4.20 *Play School* from BBC1 entry for 10.30; 4.45 *Captain Zep*, *Space Detective*: Today, he is called on to supervise security arrangements on the planet *Synope*. There is also a chance to test your powers of observation against those of the S.O.L.V.E. Academy (r).

5.15 *Stopwatch*: Sports magazine, with Tony Lewis interviewing Test cricketer David Gower. And football commentator John Motson on the secrets of his trade, and aerobics from Suzanne Dando.

5.40 *News with Jan Leeming*: 6.00 *South East at Six*; 6.25 *Bugs Bunny*: cartoon.

6.30 *Film: The Spy in the Green Hat* (1968) Another fantasy in the Man from U.N.C.L.E. series, *Napoleon Solo* and *Ilia (Robert Vaughn and David McCullum)* are sent to Sicily to smash a plot to divert the Gulf Stream. Co-starring Jack Palance and Janet Leigh.

8.00 *Grass Roots*: It is in pubs and clubs that the origins lie of Alex Sayle's bruising humour. At the age of 17, he exchanged the pints of pub in the North for the gins and tonics of London clubs. Sayle was one of the founders of what has come to be known as 'new wave comedy'. Tonight, he makes no attempt to explain his comedy - or his roots. His performances throughout the programme explain themselves.

8.30 *Summer Hart: Russell Hart*, in Brighton, mixes with local swimmers, helps out with the dolphins and put through his paces by Diana Moran, the 'Green Goddess'. This is the last programme in the summer series.

9.00 *News*. And weekend weather. 9.25 *Shannon*: Shannon's young son starts to worry about the dangerous nature of his father's job when a policeman is held in robbery.

10.15 *Seconds Out*: Boxing world comedy, starring Robert Lindsay (r); 10.45 *News* headlines.

10.50 *Salon's Lot*: Final part of this TV adaptation of Stephen King's novel about vampires in a New England village. Co-starring David Soul and James Mason; 12.05 *Weather*.

FREQUENCIES: Radio 1: 1053kHz/285m; 1089kHz/275m; Radio 2: 663kHz/433m; 809kHz/230m; Radio 3: 1215kHz/247m; VHF: 90-92.5; Radio 4: 1053kHz/285m; BBC 152kHz/261m; VHF: 97.3; Capital: 1545kHz/194m; VHF: 94.9; BBC Radio London 1458kHz/206m; VHF: 94.9; World Service MF 640kHz/463m.

ENTERTAINMENTS

LC: Last; C: 2nd; S: 3rd; T: 4th; F: 5th; M: 6th; W: 7th; Th: 8th; Fr: 9th; Sa: 10th; Su: 11th; N: 12th; E: 13th; M: 14th; W: 15th; Th: 16th; F: 17th; S: 18th; Su: 19th; M: 20th; W: 21st; Th: 22nd; F: 23rd; S: 24th; Su: 25th; M: 26th; W: 27th; Th: 28th; F: 29th; S: 30th; Su: 31st; M: 1st; W: 2nd; Th: 3rd; F: 4th; S: 5th; Su: 6th; M: 7th; W: 8th; Th: 9th; F: 10th; S: 11th; Su: 12th; M: 13th; W: 14th; Th: 15th; F: 16th; S: 17th; Su: 18th; M: 19th; W: 20th; Th: 21st; F: 22nd; S: 23rd; Su: 24th; M: 25th; W: 26th; Th: 27th; F: 28th; S: 29th; Su: 30th; M: 31st; W: 1st; Th: 2nd; F: 3rd; S: 4th; Su: 5th; M: 6th; W: 7th; Th: 8th; F: 9th; S: 10th; Su: 11th; M: 12th; W: 13th; Th: 14th; F: 15th; S: 16th; Su: 17th; M: 18th; W: 19th; Th: 20th; F: 21st; S: 22nd; Su: 23rd; M: 24th; W: 25th; Th: 26th; F: 27th; S: 28th; Su: 29th; M: 30th; W: 31st; Th: 1st; F: 2nd; S: 3rd; Su: 4th; M: 5th; W: 6th; Th: 7th; F: 8th; S: 9th; Su: 10th; M: 11th; W: 12th; Th: 13th; F: 14th; S: 15th; Su: 16th; M: 17th; W: 18th; 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Steel gives an ultimatum on party manifesto

By Our Political Staff

Mr David Steel has made clear to his fellow MPs that should he be stripped of authority over the contents of the Liberal Party election manifesto he would find it impossible to continue as leader of the party.

All 16 of Mr Steel's party colleagues in Parliament have received a four-page letter in which he sets out his views on control of the manifesto and other issues to come before the Liberal Assembly in Harrogate next month.

Mr Steel insists that he is "certainly willing and indeed keen to continue the leadership of the party". But his letter is said to be critical of both the Association of Liberal Councillors and the Young Liberals.

MPs were at pains to play down the suggestion that Mr Steel's letter constitutes another threat to resign. In a postscript, Mr Steel recalls that the only threat he has made to resign was over the formulation of the Lib-Lab Pact when Mr James Callaghan was prime minister.

With Mr Steel on his sabbatical and no meetings planned before the assembly, MPs maintained it would have been unusual had he not written to them setting out his position.

A telephone call by *The Times* to Mr Steel's home at Etruria Bridge confirmed that the Liberal leader, though much recovered from his viral infection, is sticking by his intention not to speak to the press until the assembly.

Though the word "resign" does not appear in the letter to MPs, the plain message is that were the assembly to take away

Alliance 'real threat'

Continued from page 1
opposition because it was the easier party to beat. I thought she was then trying to cling to Labour because she was sure she could always beat them."

But he added: "I think the Alliance will undoubtedly replace Labour as the main party of opposition and as the main party of government."

Certainly, the campaign for the Labour leadership shows no sign of altering Labour's direction. Mr Roy Hattersley, the main challenger to Mr Neil Kinnock, from the Labour right, has repeatedly shown that he is a wholehearted believer in socialism.

The Alliance, meantime,

provided it can work together without the Labour-style wrangling and infighting which has broken out in the wake of the election result, shows every sign of putting forward policies within the free enterprise framework. Mrs Thatcher's analysis that this is where the main political threat to the Conservatives will lie.

• The Prime Minister returned to work at 10 Downing Street yesterday after a 13-day holiday by Lake Zug in Switzerland.

She was without the dark glasses which she wore after the eye operation at the beginning of this month. She told staff she felt fine.

The Government Infor-

mation Department immediately asked newspapers not to use a word of it.

The appeal urges Sindhis to continue and intensify the struggle, but it is principally aimed at the inhabitants of Punjab, Pakistan's most influential province.

Although Punjabi dissidents have been courting arrest in ones and twos each day in the same surge of popular feeling against the regime as has driven the Sindhis to widespread revolt, has not materialized there. A Punjabi rising is essential if the future.

If the President is planning such talk it will do much to take the sting out of the present campaign of unrest against his rule, and his proposed constitutional changes. It will in particular defuse a dramatic appeal circulating in Pakistan yesterday under the name of Begum Nasrat Bhutto, the widow of the executed Prime Minister.

Mrs Bhutto who is ailing in Paris, is chairman of the Pakistan People's Party, her husband's former party, and the PPP distributed the statement

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abolition of martial law the restoration of the 1973 constitution and for elections now.

Public announcements of the President have taken a line much softer towards the politicians than his former tone. He said in Karachi on Wednesday that the politicians were "as much patriots as we are" and declared that he had been meeting political leaders from time to time in the past, and would continue this practice in the future.

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